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B R E T H R E N M I S S I O N A R Y

HERALD

VOL 58 NO. 1

JANUARY/FEBRUARY, 1996
\$2.00

**Into THE
ARMS OF JESUS**

*It's not just for
Pre-Teens*

MILLIE DAVIS
CONFERENCE ON
WOMEN

*May I Introduce
You to Kevin and
Will Yohe?*

**Lady Lancers: National
Champions!**

*Breaking the Sunday
Morning Mold*



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HERALD

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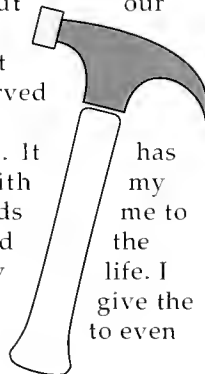
Jeff Carroll

After several years, the original owner decided he wanted to buy the house back. Understandably, the new owner refused to sell. So the original owner went out, found the carcass of a dead dog in the street and hung it from the nail that he still owned. Soon the house became unlivable, and the new owner was forced to sell to the owner of the nail.



As the storyteller concluded. "If we leave the devil with even one small peg in our life, he will return to hang his rotting garbage on it."

When Dave Bogue came to our church recently, he concluded the service by inviting people to come up and get a nail. The purpose of the nail was to remind us all of the sacrifice Jesus made on the cross for our sins. Hopefully, we would be encouraged to faithfully witness to others about our faith in the Lord Jesus. That nail has also served to alert me to something else. It much to do with future. It reminds diligently guard front door of my cannot afford to enemy access one nail.



Where's my hammer? •

NEW YEAR COMMITMENT

I am part of the "Fellowship of the Unashamed." I have Holy Spirit power. The die has been cast. I've stepped over the line. The decision has been made. I am a disciple of His. I won't look back, let up, slow down, back away, or be still. My past is redeemed, my present makes sense, and my future is secure. I am finished and done with low living, sight walking, small planning, smooth knees, colorless dreams, tame visions, mundane talking, chintzy giving, and dwarfed goals!

I no longer need preeminence, prosperity, position, promotions, plaudits, or popularity. I don't have to be right, first, tops, recognized, praised, regarded, or rewarded. I now live by presence, learn by faith, love by patience, live by prayer, and labor by power.

My face is set, my gait is fast, my goal is heaven, my road is narrow, my way is rough, my companions few, my guide reliable, my mission clear. I cannot be bought, compromised, detoured, lured away, turned back, diluted, or delayed. I will not flinch in the face of sacrifice, hesitate in the presence of adversity, negotiate at the table of the enemy, ponder at the pool of popularity, or meander in the maze of mediocrity.

I won't give up, shut up, let go, or slow up until I've preached up, prayed up, paid up, stored up, and stayed up for the cause of Christ.

I am a disciple of Jesus. I must go till He comes, give till I drop, preach till all know, and work till He stops.

And when He comes to get His own, He'll have no problems recognizing me . . . my colors will be clear.

NAILS

I heard a story the other day that is worth passing on. A certain man wanted to sell his house for \$10,000. Another man wanted to buy it very badly, but he was a poor man and could not afford to pay the full price. After much dickering, the owner agreed to sell the house to the man for \$5,000. But, the reduced price came with a stipulation. The owner would sell the house, but he would keep ownership of a large nail protruding over the front door.



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God Doesn't Wear Nikes

by Deborah Willis

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Cover: Pastor Chuck Davis and his wife Millie Davis. She is the coordinator for the Women's Retreat in Orlando, FL.

Breaking the Sunday Morning MOLD *by Paul Vance*

"Another church?" That's what many people thought when the Winona Lake Grace Brethren Church announced plans to plant another church in Warsaw, Indiana. There are over 40 churches in Warsaw and Winona Lake. What difference could one more make?

But when Warsaw's newest church had their grand opening on October 1, 1995, it was clear Jesus was ready to build one more. And this one looked a lot different from His others. There was no cross, no stained glass windows, no organ, no hymns, no rituals, and no pastor.

Instead, the 291 people who came out to see New Horizon Community Church's first public service saw a band that had a soft-rock sound, a lead singer and backup singers of professional quality, a drama that poked fun at the "birds and the bees," and a talk-not a sermon—that launched the series, "Everything you ever wanted to know about God but were afraid to ask."

The new church is out to surprise people who have given up on church. It is the first church in Warsaw to design a Sunday morning service exclusively for people who do not now attend church. Word-of-mouth has been their sole advertising and it seems to have worked well.

"Everything we do on Sunday morning is geared for people we call 'unchurched,'" says Brad Skiles, senior leader for the church. "We have a small group of people who meet weekly to critique the Sunday service. Their whole focus is whether our music, drama, theme, and message connected with unchurched people. We have redesigned the church service to provide a place for people to learn about God without

feeling pressure to make a decision. We realize that faith is a process and we allow people to go through that process at their own pace."

The idea to start this new type of church in Warsaw, came out of a series of early morning meetings that began in September of 1994. Eight men committed themselves to meet weekly to pray, study Acts, and discuss the possibility of starting a church that would present the message of the Bible in a contemporary way. The group was an unlikely mix of interests and ages. Ranging from an early-twenty-year-old to a 70 year-old, the group was made up of a college professor, a retired missionary, two financial planners, a denominational executive, a lead singer for a hard-rock band, a videographer, and an owner of an area foundry.

Early in the developmental process, John Teevan, pastor of the home church for these men, was brought into the decision. Soon the vision for the new church became a way of fulfilling the mother church's plans to reach out to different people groups.

In January of 1995, the October 1 launch date was chosen. Then meetings in the mother church were used to communicate the strategy for reaching out to some 8,000 unchurched people in this rural community. From January through May, the mother church helped nurture the movement and encouraged its development. By June, 50 adults left area churches to pursue the church planting venture.

From June through September, the new church met weekly on Sunday morning in a "Spiritual Boot Camp" phase. Sunday morning topics and small group activities began educating and expanding this core in anticipation

of a new design for church. Then the October 1 launch was a tremendous affirmation of how God is working.

Although their Sunday morning service attracts attention, this new church wants to be known for what happens on other days of the week. "We view Sunday morning as a funnel," states Skiles. "When people are ready to take a next step, we have lots of ways to get into smaller groups which meet during the week. Someday, we'll be known as a church of small groups . . . where it is easy to make new friends and feel a part of a family."

Behind the scenes of this church is another unique strategy. With a core of about 130 attendees, the church has yet to name a pastor. "We decided we didn't want a church where it was expected the pastor would do all the work," says Skiles. "We have several talented people sharing the role of a pastor and nearly everyone in our core is involved in some aspect of service. One of our values is to train leaders and our current structure gives many opportunities for leadership development."

Throughout the nation people have been praying for this church planting effort. Commenting on the preservice prayer time, one of the New Horizon leaders said, "It was such a special moment. As we started to pray I could feel the prayers of many people across the nation who have been remembering us." The new church is so grateful for the prayer support of its mother church and friends throughout the Grace Brethren Fellowship. God has been answering those prayers . . . one demonstration being the many unchurched people who came on their first Sunday. •

KIEV DIARY

by John W. Schumacher

During period of September 1 through September 9, Martha and I found ourselves involved in an opportunity for ministry we could never have imagined possible, even in our wildest dreams. The words of Paul in 2 Corinthians 2:12 kept coming back to me: "... a door was opened to me of the Lord." We were in the city of Kiev, Ukraine, "half a world away" from the comforts of home and "a world away" from the comforts of politics, language and culture that we so easily ... and so often ... take for granted.

Where do events like these have their beginnings? I can easily remember the night I met Sergei Timchenko in the home of my friend and co-worker in the National Association of Evangelical Chaplains Commission, retired chaplain Jim Edgren. Sergei had pastored an underground church in a community outside the city of Kiev, uncomfortably close to the Chernobyl nuclear power plant. When the "Iron Curtain" lifted, Sergei was permitted to move to Denver, Colorado, to begin what was to become a five year study program at Denver Conservative Baptist Seminary. Now he was returning to Kiev where he had been invited, because of his newly acquired "Western" education, to assume the "chair" of the Religion Department at the University of Kiev, Mohyla Academy. One of his burning desires was to offer a course at the University that would reflect what he had experienced in the United States. He wanted to call his

course, "Christianity and Democracy". Unknown to me, he was looking for "professors" he could invite to Kiev to help him present this academic opportunity for Ukrainian college students. My good friend, Jim Edgren, said to Sergei, "talk to John, he taught Ethics at the Army War College".



John Schumacher (R) in a Ukrainian University classroom.

After a brief conversation, Sergei looked at me and simply, but sincerely asked, "John, would you come to Kiev and lecture on ethics at my university?" With almost no confidence that anything like that could ever happen to me, I told my new friend, "if the Lord opens the door, I will come".

The event is much greater and more comprehensive than this space can contain, but the Lord's loving providence brought us to the moment when we were at last on board our 767 Martinair Holland jet, Ukrainian visas and 40 pages of manuscript in hand, ready for "take off", fully knowing that the best preparation we could have done

would not be enough for what lies ahead of us.

Thursday, August 31: We depart SeaTac International Airport for our 10 hour flight to Amsterdam. About 2 hours out of Amsterdam, the sky turns a brilliant red, the most spectacular sunrise we have ever seen. "Thank you Lord, for such a powerful reminder of Who is really in control of the incredible journey!" After a four hour layover in Amsterdam, we board our Ukraine Airline 737 jet for our three hour journey to Kiev. I find this part of our journey a time for quiet but fairly intense reflection.

Friday, September 1: We land in Kiev, quite weary from our journey and experiencing a ten hour jet lag, go through customs and finally into the airport lobby, desperately searching to find the familiar face of Sergei. Almost 45 minutes later, after one more prayer reminding the Lord that He is "in charge", I look up to see Sergei coming toward me. I hug him. I have never been happier to see a familiar face! We

are taken through the city of Kiev to an apartment building as long as a football field and 12 stories high, containing over 4,000 people. We will stay with Ludmila Gluchomen, a native Ukrainian, who had studied and lived in the US during the "Cold War" years. For most of that time, she had been completely out of contact with her family. She is now a missionary serving in the Ukraine with "Great Commission Missions". She knows both cultures and is fluent in both languages. We begin to feel a little more secure.

Saturday, September 2: After a "fitful" night of "rest," we awake to our first full day in a part of the world about which the West knows

so little. We spend the afternoon sight-seeing and, early that evening, find ourselves traveling across the city with a "taxi" driver ("taxi" in Kiev are privately owned cars you are able to flag down, whose drivers expect a fee for their service), who is a former Ukrainian soldier and former member of the Communist party. We share Christ with him, through our host, and he responds with sincere interest. We attend a two and a half hour service in a Baptist church where I am invited to give a testimony and sing . . . and where I am greeted by an old Ukrainian gentleman with a "holy kiss" square on my mouth!

Sunday, September 3: The morning is ours and we cherish every quiet moment. We travel to another Baptist church for another two and a half hour service where, again, I am invited to sing and give my testimony. (No kiss . . . but I am asked by one gentleman if I have ever sung opera. I think it is a compliment!) We meet Sergei's wife, Irana, and his children, Marsha, Kata, Andre

and Ilya. We are also privileged to meet his sisters, Anna and Olga and Olga's husband, Slava, a physician. Precious Christians. We are reminded how artificial barriers melt away quickly when you meet a new brother or sister in Christ. We can't imagine what Heaven will be like . . . but this is at least a "tiny" glimpse!

Monday, September 4: We journey by "Metro" (their subway system that "feels" like it must be at least 200 miles of tunnel) to the University where we have a very enjoyable office call with Dr. Gorski, head of the Department of Religion and Philosophy. We see more of the city. Government buildings still have the "hammer and sickle" prominently displayed. Sergei tells

us that it means nothing now but is just too hard to "chip" it off. Late afternoon finds us at the Military Academy where they train their middle-management "career" officers. I have been invited to lecture on ethics. It is a "first" for the Academy. Few, if any, Americans have ever been invited to speak to these students and they have never heard a lecture on ethics. Questions are asked, the dialogue is energizing. I feel I have genuinely "connected." I am able to share my faith and the "faith of my fathers" who gave birth to a nation that has

exhausting and limiting (I was "wiped out" after the lecture at the Military Academy). The platform time is long, over two hours. Again, I have the opportunity to share my faith and our precious Christian heritage. Again, the dialogue with the students is energizing and exciting. Our evening meal has been prepared by Sergei's mother, Ludmila. It is ethnic food, which is simple, but quite tasty and filling. When we finish eating, I am invited to do a mini-concert. It is a very touching experience for both of us. I sing Ludmila's favorite, "The

Hiding Place" to an accompaniment played by a "gifted pianist" (Martha!) playing a very out of tune piano. "Grandma" Timchenko clasps her hands under her chin and lovingly smiles and quietly tells us, "spaceba! spaceba!" ("thank you, thank you"). It is a moment we will always remember and cherish. Our return "home" is not uneventful! We are escorted by Grandma to a bus. We come to



Mr. and Mrs. Schunacher enjoy a dinner with Victor Kulakevich, Dr. Vladimir Chesnokov, Vladimir Mandrageja, Alexie Pavlovich and Dr. Edward Afonin.

embraced a moral, ethical value system from its earliest days, deeply rooted in the Judeo-Christian tradition.

Tuesday, September 5: The morning is quiet. On the way to the University, we pass by a fatality accident. The body is still lying in the street. It is symbolic to me of the desperate plight of so many who live in the part of the "Former Soviet Union". The course is introduced by Dr. Gorski and I am introduced by Sergei. As Sergei begins to interpret for me, he is interrupted by several of the students. He looks at me and tells me, "they do not want me to interpret for you, they want to hear you only in English". What a gift! Lecturing through an interpreter is

the end of the bus route and are required to exit the bus. It is late at night, and we have no idea where we are, except that we are with "Grandma", who is also lost and who speaks no English. It is hard to imagine a situation where one could feel more insecure! We finally arrive at our "home," driven there by a reluctant "taxi" driver. He is in a hurry and drives recklessly fast. I think of the title to an old movie, "From Here To Eternity" (!), but we make it and Luda's familiar apartment looks almost as inviting as my own front room in Olympia!

Wednesday, September 6: I had been scheduled to address the

(continued on page 18)

GRACE BRETHREN BOYS

It's not Just for the Pre-Teen

by Bob Smoker

What is the age group that you usually associate with Grace Brethren Boys? Most likely your answer is grades one through six. Many churches have Grace Brethren Boys for the older boys as well. The Grace Brethren Boys program has always included the older boys, taking them beyond the elementary level with more advanced material and activities, and incorporating them into the leadership structure.

This renewed interest among the older boys is linked to the "Adventure Team." Being part of the A-Team means that the boy has demonstrated certain qualities and skills as well as reaching the right age.

This past June 22, members of the A-team along with 22 men participated in the Grace Brethren Boys High Adventure held in the Adirondack Park of up state New York. The large number was more than expected and is an indication that there is considerable interest among our men and boys for this program.



Older and younger men enjoy the great outdoors.



The young men of the Grace Brethren Boys are enjoying their time in the wilderness.

The week itself was tremendous! The outdoors orientation is intentional. The biblical/spiritual orientation is intentional. And when those elements are com-

bined in a wilderness setting away from the rest of the world, and when man and boy are stretched spiritually, emotionally, and physically, good things happen. It is no wonder that Grace Brethren Boys, for the older boys, is growing.

We are praising God for what He is doing with and through the ministry of Grace Brethren Boys. Churches interested in learning more about this ministry should contact:

Roger Mills, National Director
118 Salem Ct.
Reynoldsburg, OH 43068
1-800-GRACE-12



ONE on ONE with The People We Meet

MILLIE DAVIS *Conference on Women*



Q : Millie Davis is from Orlando, Florida. What is the project that is on your heart right now?

A: Well, the main thing that is on my heart right now is the hurting pastor's wives or women who are in the ministry today.

Q: You are going to have a retreat. When is that going to be?

A: The retreat is going to be in April, the 22nd through the 25th, 1996.

Q: Where is it going to be held?

A: It's going to be held at the Hilton Beach Resort and Convention Center in Daytona Beach, Florida.

Q: This is especially for pastor's wives. Is this correct?

A: It is for women who are in the ministry or their husbands who are in the ministry; that is minister of music, minister of education, whatever.

Q: What is the goal of this retreat?

A: The goal of this retreat is to help those pastors' wives to

understand their role, to be able to cope with it, to fill in that gap.

Q: You shared with us a statistic on people unhappy as couples in the ministry. Would you share that again?

A: Yes. H.B. London, who is with Focus on the Family, shared a statistic that he had polled pastors and their wives. They asked the pastors and their wives if they had the opportunity to leave the ministry today how many would leave. Approximately 85% of the pastors said they would leave and 100% of the pastors' wives said they would leave the ministry today.

Q: That is shocking! Now this is the reason that you are going to have this women's retreat, to encourage women in the ministry?

A: Absolutely! Not only to encourage, but we've got to find that denomination in there that is going to meet a need.

Q: What is the cost of the retreat?

A: The cost of the retreat is \$295.00. That is for four days and three

nights at the Hilton plus their transportation. We are praying very hard that they will see the need to come, that they will find the time to come and that the people in their churches will see the need and see to it that they get there.

Q: If people want to help with a special fund, would they set it up throughout her church or how should they do it?

A: The wives themselves who are coming are to make their own reservations, so the best way to do it would be to go right to the wives or the pastors. I want your wife to go and I will pay the way, or I will give them frequent flyer miles, or anything I can do. But you need to be there. If you go and you get inspired, you are going to come back and bless our ministry here.

Q: The dates of the retreat again?

A: April 22nd through the 25th 1996. Steve and Maria Gardner are going to be there in concert and song. Patty Stump, a Christian counselor, is going to be there. She is not only going to be speaking, but she is going to be available to meet with any pastor's wife who has a need on a personal basis. •



TERRY

by Martha Schwartz

"Hello! I'm back again." I recognized my son's voice immediately. "It's great to see the sun again after being out under the sea for almost three months."

"Oh, Terry, it's so good to hear your voice and to know you're safe." We had visited his submarine just before he went out for this last stint. I could understand what a blessing sunlight would be and how claustrophobic he might have felt living in such limited space for a long time.

"And something important: Your brother's wedding is only two weeks away and he needs to know your measurements for your tux."

On went the joyful conversation with my 23 year old son who was stationed at the Nuclear Submarine Naval Base in Bangor, Washington. He had been in the Navy for over 4 years and had excelled as an electrician's mate on his "boat." One time he worked 60 hours straight because the electrical generator on the sub had failed, which put the crew in danger and in the dark, under the ocean.

At such times, he remembered that God is there in the depths of the sea: "If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea, even there your hand shall lead me, and your right hand shall hold me" (Psalm 139:8-10).

During some of those tedious hours at sea he had opportunity to work with Tony and to talk with him about the Lord. Tony's childhood had been rough and he was rather skeptical about what Terry had to tell him, but he listened. And

when they were on land, they had lots of fun together boating, skiing and being with other young people. Sometimes Tony went with Terry to the young adult class at church. He was full of questions and objections.

Another week passed that summer of 1988 and we had the pleasure of another call from Terry on Saturday. He would be leaving



Terry Schwartz in uniform.

Washington on Monday and arrive home in Santa Maria, California, on Tuesday.

Sunday was a busy day—Sunday school at the C&MA church in Silverdale, Washington, then to another church to participate in the worship service and fellowship again with friends he had made there.

He had attended the wedding of a friend the day before and one of the bridesmaids needed a lift to catch a plane. "Always ready to help," Terry was available. And

during the two-hour trip, he was able to share his testimony with the girl.

He had to hurry to be at church that evening, where he had agreed to share what God had taught him during his time at sea. Arriving home, he threw some clothes in the washer, since he planned to leave for California the next morning.

He jumped into his bright blue-green Porsche, with his Bible on the seat beside him, and took off down the twenty miles of beautiful tree-lined highway toward the church.

The meeting began without him. Later, Terry still hadn't arrived. Now it was very late! Something must be wrong. Prayer went up for him.

.....

Monday morning in Santa Maria was quite normal, although the week had arrived for Curtis and Susan's wedding. Ralph, my husband, had gone off for his morning game at the racquetball club.

The doorbell rang—two Navy officers were at the door. I invited them in. They looked extremely serious, but would not say why they had come until Ralph arrived. Then, they told us that Terry had died in a car accident the evening before. My reaction surprised them as I said, "Oh, he has gone to be with the Lord!"

Terry had been born in Brazil where we were missionaries, and he had expressed his desire to visit Brazil, and perhaps to return there as a missionary. It was comforting to us that the chaplain at the submarine base who

conducted the memorial service had also served as a missionary in Brazil.

Terry liked music and had a collection of tapes. He especially loved Keith Green's songs. I can picture Terry rejoicing in the presence of the Lord singing:

"Oh Lord, You're beautiful,
Your face is all I see,
For when Your eyes are on
this child
Your grace abounds to me."

(•Keith Green, copyright
Birdwing Music/Cherry Lane
Music Publishing Co.)

I miss my son more than I can express. My heart cries because he is not here. But, praise the Lord, he is safe in God's house and some day we'll be there together. I don't know why God would take one in the prime of life, who was faithfully serving Him and who planned to serve Him in the future. I just leave that with the Lord. He knows what is best!

Tony was greatly affected by Terry's death. He continued to attend the young adult's meetings and within a year accepted the Lord. He later finished his military service and moved to California near us. He was

hungry to know God's Word and Ralph had the privilege of discipling him, as well as marrying him to a Christian young lady. Terry had touched Tony's life as well as dozens of others. I thank the Lord that I, along with my husband, had the privilege to raise a child of the King.

• • •

Ralph and Martha Schwartz served as Grace Brethren missionaries in Brazil from 1964-78, then pastored the Santa Maria, (CA) GBC until 1991 when they joined the GBC missionary team in Portugal. •

GRACE COLLEGE *receives* \$1.5 Million Donation Staff Report

Winona Lake-Grace College and Seminary has received a gift of \$1.5 million—the largest contribution in the school's history.

The donation came from Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gordon of Springfield, Ohio. The Gordons, longtime friends of Grace College, were honored at the school's homecoming Oct. 20.

The gift includes \$500,000 toward the renovation of the former Westminster Hotel. The building was purchased by the college in 1994 with plans to renovate it as a college dormitory, student union, and conference center. Grace is involved in a capital campaign to renovate the facility.

The remaining \$1 million will help build a new student recreation center on campus. Plans for that facility will begin once the

capital campaign for Westminster is concluded.



Mr. and Mrs. Robert Gordon were honored at Grace College's homecoming on October 20.

This gift moves Grace substantially closer to completing the capital campaign for the Westminster, as well as enabling the institution to

take a significant step forward in the campus building strategy.

In thanking the Gordons for their gift, Grace president, Dr. Ronald Manahan noted that they are careful stewards of their resources, seeing to it that their gifts are invested in work that is eternal: promoting the work of God's kingdom. The Gordons have given to Grace over several decades.

The Gordons said their agreement with the mission of Grace College was an important factor in their giving.

Grace College and Seminary is an evangelical Christian community of higher education that applies biblical values in strengthening character, sharpening competence and preparing service. Degrees are awarded through the doctoral level.

The institution is accredited by the North Central Association. •

May I Introduce You to Kevin and Jill Yohe?

by Georgia Bateson

Kevin & Jill Yohe are members of our Osceola Grace Brethren Church. Kevin is active in the choir and together they are youth leaders when Jill is able.

They met at Taylor University, been married about 6 years and had even served as EMT's together for a few of those. They led a fairly normal life until August 20, 1989. After vacationing in Pennsylvania, visiting Kevin's parents, they were returning home with Jill asleep in the car. When she awoke, she had a tremendous headache and was vomiting. Kevin took her to the nearest hospital. This particular hospital had had 6 cases of meningitis and wanted to do a spinal tap. Since Jill had to remain flat on her back for 8 hours following the spinal tap, she was admitted to the hospital. Kevin in the meantime called his parents to tell them what was going on. It also seems Kevin had an aunt that lived in this particular town, so Kevin gave her a call. She came to the hospital and took him and their dog, who had been traveling with Kevin and Jill, to her house.

When Jill awoke the next morning, the left side of her face was droopy. She remained in the hospital 4 to 5 days. Kevin's aunt spoke to her doctor and Jill was transferred to a hospital in Youngstown, Ohio. Jill spent approximately a week and a half there with still no diagnosis. Jill finally convinced the doctor in Youngstown to let her go home.

Kevin's parents came to take Jill home to Indiana. At this point, Kevin and Jill had a subcompact car and Kevin's parents had a larger car which would make her 6 hour trip home much more comfortable. Back in Goshen, Jill saw a local neurologist who thought she might have migraines. It was September by this time and there still had been no

The doctor called Kevin at his office and told him to come right away because he didn't think Jill would live through the night.

further testing done. They contacted their family doctor at the Elkhart Clinic who called in another neurologist. Jill was back in the hospital with her right side paralyzed. She was taken by ambulance to Rush Presbyterian St. Luke's in Chicago and admitted to the Neurology Department. Finally, someone had some ideas! They started her on high doses of steroids. She would get better, then would be worse. The doctors there were treating her for multiple sclerosis. The neurologist called in specialists who ran tests, but there was no follow-up on the testing. Jill was admitted to the hospital in Chicago 4 or 5 times with no positive diagnosis, all the while her condition was

deteriorating. Soon she was in a wheel chair and almost was put on a respirator.

The doctor called Kevin at his office and told him to come right away because he didn't think Jill would live through the night. Their pastor went with him and they had an anointing service. They were still getting nowhere and asked for a second opinion.

About this time Jill's mom saw an article in the paper about a lady who had the same sort of symptoms. Jill called the lady who had traveled all over the world seeking a diagnosis. She told Jill the best doctor that she had found was at Indiana University Medical Center in Indianapolis. Jill called the doctor, but he wouldn't see her. Jill called the lady back, who in turn called the doctor and explained Jill's situation to him. The doctor (Dr. Kohler) agreed to see Jill.

It was now December of 1990 and there had not been a positive diagnosis. During Jill's first visit to Dr. Kohler, he studied the testing that was done at the hospital in Chicago. By studying the results, he seemed to think that she had contracted encephalitis, which is an inflammation of the brain. Jill was admitted to the hospital in Indianapolis two more times between December 1990 and June 1991. During this time, Dr. Kohler tried to find a pain medication that Jill could take. In June of 1991, a nerve block was tried, but only gave minimal relief. It was suggested that a block of nerves be removed from her shoulder. It was during this time that Dr. Kohler made a positive diagnosis. He felt fairly certain that Jill did indeed have encephalitis, but because it was let go so long they would never know for

(continued on page 15)

"Into the Arms of Jesus"

A Memorial Tribute to Russel H. Dunlap

1925-1995

by Larry N. Chamberlain

We had shared in our staff devotions on Tuesday morning, October 17, how uncertain each day's events can be, yet our certain assurance is that the Lord directs our steps (Proverbs 16:9).

On Wednesday, our dear friend and colleague, Russ Dunlap, suffered a sudden, massive heart attack and was ushered into the arms of his Savior, only one month from his seventieth birthday.

Russ was a layman who dedicated his management skills to the work of the Lord. He served as Director of Business Affairs at Grace College for nine years (1962-1971) and, for the past twelve years, as Director of Grace Brethren Financial Planning Service, holding stewardship seminars and individual estate planning interviews across the United States.

Russ and his wife, Phyllis, traveled thousands of miles in their motor home, to Grace Brethren churches of any size congregation, encouraging people to include the work of the Great Commission in their financial planning.

Russ conducted over 3,000 personal interviews, reviewing

estates totaling over \$440 million. He had the privilege of seeing over \$42 million designated for the local church, Christian education and missions across America and around the world.



Russ Dunlap.

The time and travel Russ and Phyllis committed to their ministry was far beyond any measurable return of earthly compensation. Yet they sought only the advancement of the Great Commission and the eternal reward of Heaven.

To Russ, "stewardship" was not only the focus of his ministry, it was a way of life. I know of no one who offers a greater example of Christ-like stewardship than Russel Dunlap. His gentleness, caring spirit, eagerness to help, never-ending words of encouragement and acts of giving are testimonies to his life that will live on in our memories.

The song that was sung during the memorial service was precious to Russ during his lifetime and comforts us who bid him good-bye . . .

*Over the sunset mountains
Someday I'll softly go,
Into the arms of Jesus,
He who has loved me so.*

*Over the sunset mountains,
Heaven awaits for me.
Over the sunset mountains,
Jesus my Savior I'll see.*

*Toiling will all be ended,
Shadows will flee away.
Sorrow will be forgotten,
O what a wonderful day.*

Cards and letters may be sent to Phyllis and the family at 1782 Country Club Road, Warsaw, IN 46580. •



LADY LANCERS, NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!

by Jessica Horner

The Lady Lancers clinched their first NCCAA national title this weekend at Lee College, Tennessee. The ladies entered the national tournament coming off a disappointing home loss to conference rival Taylor, but they overcame their obstacles in an overwhelming show of unity.

The tournament started Friday, November 3, with three matches of pool play. The Lady Lancers first faced Trinity Christian College, (Illinois), whom they had already beaten twice this season. However, Trinity took game one 10-15 while Grace struggled to find their rhythm of play. Grace came back to win the next two games 15-12, 15-5.

The final game in pool play was a tight match against Concordia (Michigan). Again, Grace lost the first game 11-5, but continued to gain confidence that they could overcome their long, grueling day of volleyball. They won the next two games 15-12 and 15-13 to finish the first day still seeded number one in the tournament.

Grace (35-3) began day two of the single-elimination tournament by facing Judson College (Illinois). Although Judson put up a fight in game one, the Lady Lancers took the match in two games 15-13, 15-1. Grace played an excellent match, only missing two serves. Rebecca Wahlstrom and Trish Dament finished with seven kills a piece.

The Lady Lancers moved on to a quarter-final match against Mt. Vernon Nazarene, (Ohio). Grace cruised to a 15-5, 15-9 win over the team they had beaten earlier this season. The outside hitters were strong in this match as both Stacy Pastryk and Stacey Jackson recorded seven kills. Wahlstrom had 15 kills in the match, and Dament added 10 more.

Meanwhile, Concordia pulled out a surprise upset over Taylor University, setting up a rematch between Grace and Concordia for the championship game.

The Cardinals tried to continue their upset streak by taking the first game 15-13. However, the Lady Lancers were not about to give up. They dominated game two, commanding a 8-0 lead before winning 15-7. Momentum turned dramatically to set up the final game. Grace took an early lead and kept control of the game. Concordia managed to score 12 points, but nothing could stop the Lady Lancers. When Stacy Pastryk drilled the ball past a Concordia defender for the final point of the game, the celebration began. **NATIONAL CHAMPIONS!!**

Rebecca Wahlstrom was honored as the tournament's Most Valuable Player while also claiming a spot on the NCCAA All-American team. Setter,

Melissa Rants, was also named to the All-Tournament and All-American team. Head coach, Candace Moats, was voted NCCAA Coach of the Year in her first season at Grace.

The Lady Lancers finished their regular season with a home win against Marian Tuesday night. They played Marian again Thursday, November 9 in the first game of the MCC tournament. The tournament continued November 10-11 at Taylor University. The winner of the conference tournament advanced to the regionals held at Michigan-Dearborn, November 16-18.

The Lady Lancers ended the season with a disappointing loss to Taylor University in the semi-final round of the NAIA Regional Tournament. They began the tournament by defeating St. Xavier 3-0 on Thursday evening. Friday, they defeated the University of Michigan-Dearborn 3-2 and the College of St. Francis (L) 4-1. They were defeated by Taylor on Saturday.

Rebecca Wahlstrom paced the Lady Lancers throughout the tournament with 212 kills. Bridget Byers added 88 kills and 22 blocks. Melissa Rants and Wahlstrom added 18 blocks a piece. Rants also contributed 454 assists. Wahlstrom and Rants were named to the NAIA All-Region First Team for their superb play this season. The Lancers finished the season with an overall record of 44-5. •

(May 1 . . . continued from page 12)

sure. Because the inflammation of the brain had caused nerve damage, Jill now had Cranial Reflex Sympathetic Dystrophy Syndrome. The RSD causes the pain and has spread from her head to her shoulder. Jill has also been diagnosed with Collegen Vascular disease. This causes the swelling she experiences. Anti-inflammatory drugs build up toxic levels in the liver and sometimes do not interact well with the pain medication that she takes causing further discomfort and complications.

In recent months, Jill has become resistant to the steroids. The next step will be a chemotherapy drug. Because of all the medication she has been on, her immune system is completely depleted. Because her body cannot defend itself, Kevin must be very careful not to bring colds and flu home or Jill could easily contract it herself.

God has taught Jill and Kevin much through all of this. He has taught them patience. He has kept them humble and through all of the trials they have learned to give things over to God. The Lord has provided for them every step of the way.

The many hospital stays and the medication costs have totally destroyed their finances. Jill's monthly prescriptions run \$300 a month (out of pocket). Hospital stays are \$350, also out of pocket. At one point, the bills seemed insurmountable. This past year alone, January through September has exceeded \$16,000.00, with the total since 1989 surpassing \$300,000.00. Even with insurance, many times the bills were like heavy weights on their shoulders. Since turning over the responsibility to God, Elkhart General has graciously forgiven \$7,500.00 of their bill which Kevin and Jill are very

OPPORTUNITY

Kevin's employer has been very accomodating through the insurance nightmare, and in letting Kevin be with Jill in her many hospital stays. Kevin has even received permission to work at home and take care of Jill during times of home convalescence. But this requires the use of a home computer which is currently beyond the realm of financial possibility, due to the medical bills. The cost of an adequate computer has been reduced to about \$1,250.00 thanks to a special deal that has been offered.

grateful, and have been working with Consumer Credit to pay the other mounting bills. Kevin says that he and Jill have concluded that, "if the Lord sees fit to send Jill to the hospital, it's going to have to be the Lord's responsibility to pay for it".

As they have already done, Kevin and Jill extend their love and appreciation to all who have so generously

helped with bills in the past. The entire situation has been hard on them, but through it all, they both are holding tightly to their faith.

As EMT's, Kevin and Jill met many lifesaving emergency needs. Maybe we can do the same for them now.

Meanwhile, we praise our Lord for the encouragement and perseverance that the Yohe's have shown to our church family. They truly have exalted Jesus' love in their testimony.

Obviously, it's been a long 6 years of trial and growth for Kevin and Jill. Let's band together to pray for them.

Also, Kevin and Jill have mounting financial needs. Anyone who cares to help are invited to send gifts to:

*Kevin and Jill Yohe
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Goshen, Indiana 46526.*

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GRACE BRETHREN NEWS UPDATE

Touching You from Around the World

Pastor Glenn Rininger has resigned as pastor of the Sebring, Florida GBC on October 1, 1995. He is prayerfully seeking God's will.

CE National has added **Timothy Kurtaneck** to its staff. Timothy (often called "T. K.") hails from southern California with his wife Dana and daughter Rebekah. He serves as Director of Church Relations and Operation Barnabas. He traveled on Operation Barnabas tours for seven years and taught and coached at Whittier Christian School for ten years.

Chery Otermat, former Director of Operation Barnabas, has had a change in her title at CE National. She will continue to oversee Girls' Ministries, TIME and CrossWalk, but will have added responsibilities in office operations. Chery's new title is Director of Operations and Specialized Ministry Training. She administered the OB ministries very capably for six years and CE National is looking forward to her expanded ministries.

On October 22, 1995 **Dr. Paul Fink** and pastor Jesse Truax had submitted their resignations as Senior and Associate pastors effective immediately to the First Brethren Church of Buena Vista. They will continue to serve the church through January 21, 1996, or until the church is successful in securing the services of a new pastor. Dr. Fink will continue his teaching at Liberty University and will seek opportunities of supplying pulpits or an interim pastorate. Pastor Truax's future plans are indefinite. Please remember both the pastors and

church in prayer as each seeks God's guidance for the future.

Mr. Ted Austin, father of Gordon (GBIM) and Gary Austin



Retreat for Women in Ministry

"Son-shine in the Eye of the Storm"

April 22-25, 1996

at the Daytona Beach Hilton Resort

The Brethren Missionary Herald Co. would like to challenge you to contribute a donation to this women's retreat. Your financial support will help several women attend this retreat and make the cost more affordable.

Furthermore, the total amount given to this project will be matched by the Brethren Missionary Herald Company.

Please send your donations to this address:

Brethren Missionary Herald Co.
P.O. Box 544
Winona Lake, IN 46590

(pastor of GBC, Colorado Springs, CO) went to be with the Lord Sunday, October 29, 1995. He had been part of the Grace Village family since December 1, 1985. Wendell Kent conducted the memorial service on Thursday, November 2, at Grace Village.

Ted was an active member of Long Beach GBC under the ministries of L. S. Bauman, Charles Mayes, Dave Hocking and Dick Mayhue. He worked as a consulting engineer for North American Rockwell, serving on the Apollo moon project. His wife, Minnie had passed away October 19, 1993.

At Grace College Homecoming, President Ron Manahan announced that Bob and Frances Gordon of Winter Haven, Florida, had given a gift of \$1.5 million to Grace college.

In late September, over sixty people were baptized at the Yalok church in Leigh, Philippines. Praise God for how He is working in His church.

Praise the Lord for opening two new Bible studies—one in Paradise, the other in Bulelac, both in depressed areas of Malanday. The home in Bulelac has no breeze and no electricity. They meet by candle light.

A midyear invitational meeting will be held in Santa Monica, CA on January 30-31, 1996. All FGBC organizations and cooperating districts are invited to send representatives to the meeting. To make your reservations call Charles Ashman at 219-269-1269.

From the Swains in Prague Czechoslovakia—Praise the Lord that over 600 students received New Testaments this Fall. We passed out NTs to high school students. We hope to repeat this process many times this Fall, perhaps even once a week. We have discovered that

Czechs have a desire to learn English or to use the English that they know. Therefore, we have planned to start a Czech-American club where we can meet with people. George has prepared a flier in Czech about the club and is using it as a method to talk to unsaved people.

Please pray for five men to accept Christ and to be discipled to work with us here in Prague in starting Grace Brethren churches.

Pray for Ralph Colburn who has congestive heart failure.

From the Hewlitts in the Philippines: Pray for salvation of those attending the house churches we started at Karangalan Village. Praise the Lord for the continued ministry in San Carlos at Freddie's house. The Saturday afternoon worship service is still well attended. Praise the Lord for the enclosed room built at the side of the house that we can use, very helpful during rainy season.

Praise the Lord for the selection by the Ruizes of a new ministry area, Sumulong Highway. Praise the Lord that housing has already been found and Ted and Viv moved in October, 1995. Ask God to prepare hearts for the Gospel. This will be the start of our ninth work. Pray for Ted as he turns the ministry of the Cainta church over to David Torres and the men and women there. Pray that the folks will keep their focus on reaching out to others.

Continue to pray for the Marikina church as they are looking for property to buy. Thank God for the generous donors who made this purchase possible. Pray for Pastor Rey Paz as he leads the church.

Dan Beaver has a full class load this year as does Bonnie Nissley at Faith Academy. Pray for the response of the students to our GBC teachers. Pray for Bonnie as she

plans a December trip to West Virginia and then Switzerland.

From the Pouparts in Spain: Thank you for praying for the work in Valencia. We are seeing fruit after several years of planting seed. This Fall, our group will be dividing into two cell groups. We're encouraged by the steady growth of our group this past year and have seen firm steps in commitment to the work. We'll continue with our church service on Sunday mornings in our apartment.

Dr. Ted Hildebrandt, professor of Old Testament, has completed an

working on a similar program for biblical Greek.

The Deacons of the First Brethren Church of Buena Vista, VA are constituted as the Pastoral Search Committee. They are seeking God's direction for securing a pastor of the church. Any member of the Fellowship of Grace Brethren Ministers interested in being considered should send a current resume to:


Mr. Charles (Buddy) Smals,
Moderator
First Brethren Church
100 East 29th Street
Buena Vista, VA 24416

Students at Grace College are realizing the importance of having their spiritual life in focus. Already this year, more than 30 women students have come forward, of their own accord, asking for accountability and prayer partners. The Student Life Department is excited about this new year and the obvious perspective on things above.

Four Home Missions churches will be "out of the nest" as of January 1, 1996, and will be self-supporting, although some will continue with District Mission assistance for awhile.

Pacific Hills Grace Brethren Church in Murietta, CA, will enter a new phase of ministry as Pastor Doug Bukowski will find full time employment outside the church in order to support his family while he continues to develop a core group and establish a church.

In preparing the 1996 budget, Home Missions has responded to the requests of various districts and included the following locations as possible new points: Chilicothe and Zanesville, OH; Canton (Atlanta), GA; and Salida, CA (central California).



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interactive, multimedia computer program designed to teach first year Hebrew. This program has been published by Parsons Technology and is available at local bookstores. The program is designed as part of an overall seminary initiative to provide instruction for interested individuals who cannot move to the Winona Lake area. It has been adopted by other seminaries and is also being used to train missionaries as they remain on the field. Grace Seminary offers credit for the successful completion of the program. Dr. Hildebrandt is currently



(Kiev Diary continued from page 7)

Police Academy, but it doesn't happen. The official with the power to give the final OK is out of town. (Subordinates were not allowed to make decisions under Communism!) Instead, we do more sight-seeing. We go to "Lavra", the ancient walled monastery, probably the oldest structures in the city of Kiev. We are told that Russia had its beginning here in "Lavra". At my request, Ludmila, our missionary hostess, asks an old Orthodox priest to explain the symbolism of the Orthodox cross. He looks angry and mumbles something. She looks at me and tells me that his answer is a gruff, "why do you want to know?" He walks away. We have just come from the cathedral where they were saying an Orthodox mass—no seats, just people standing. The monks were singing beautiful Gregorian chants. No one looks happy, in fact, very few people anywhere look happy. Our evening experience stands in dramatically sharp contrast to much of what we have experienced in the few days we have been in Kiev. Sergei's friend, CDR Victor Kulakevich, who had arranged for my presentation at the Military Academy, was able to get tickets to the ballet. It is an awesome, powerful, emotional presentation of the ballet, "Swan Lake". For a little while we both feel "reconnected" to "our" world and are reminded of the rich cultural heritage that is very much a part of this unique country.

Thursday, September 7: In the afternoon, we meet another "Sergei", but fail to get his last name. He is a senior advisor to the President on matters having to do with social issues and education. I give him a "I Corps" Bible ("I Corps" patch and camouflage cover. I had purchased many of these Bible for our soldiers at Fort Lewis when I was still the I Corps Chaplain). I

give him a miniature Chaplain Regimental pin. He immediately places it on his lapel. I think he is a believer. He is most anxious to influence the establishment of a Chaplaincy in the Ukrainian military. We have a fascinating exchange. I give my second lecture at the University. Afterward, I am approached by a young Naval officer who had been at my Military Academy lecture, who is also a journalist for their professional Naval journal. He asks if he can interview me. I tell him that I welcome this opportunity. He tells me early that he is not a believer, but he is very professional and asks probing questions . . . another moment in time I could not have expected, yet another very exciting opportunity.

Friday, September 8: I am scheduled to give another lecture at the Military Academy. This time on the "Ethical Conduct of War." Sergei had been afraid of this lecture until he heard me give parts of it at the University. Now, both he and CDR Vulakevich want the student officers to hear it. I am excited about the possibility. It doesn't happen. By the time they can get it scheduled, the students are leaving for the week end. We knew ahead of time that we would need to be "flexible" on this journey. Little did we realize just how "flexible" we would have to be. Early that evening, we meet CDR Vulakevich, COL Mandrageeva, COL Pavlovich, Dr. Chesnakov and Dr. Afonin. All men are in responsible and influential military/government positions. We talk, barely taking time to enjoy a delicious meal that has been prepared for us at the Military Academy Officer's Club. We begin at 6:30 P.M. and finally say "Good-bye" after 10:00 P.M. We talk much about the future of Ukraine, hopes and dreams for democracy to work, and a longing on their part for a chaplaincy for their armed forces. It is so intense I am exhausted. I

doubt that I fully realize how momentous this encounter really is. They are absolutely mystified that a clergyman can serve in the military and be able to serve in responsible positions. They are uneasy with the "power" needs of the Orthodox and Catholic churches and they have been taught to believe that all "Protestants" are "cultists". Sergei and I both have the opportunity to share our military work so well. I want to believe that I have helped to dispel their "myth about "Protestants" . . . and the mystery of "clergymen in uniform." All of the conversation has been warm and affirming. I pray that they have seen Christ in me and that they have been made to confront what He could mean to them.

Saturday, September 9: We finally make it to Kiev's "Borispol" International Airport for our return flight to Amsterdam. We settle down in our seats aboard our KLM 737 jet plane. It is clean. We would not have missed one moment of the past week, but we are ready to leave this mysterious country with its unstable and very unpredictable future, with a deprived populace emerging from the long, dark night of Communism, living in "quiet desperation". Yet, we have "connected" with precious brothers and sisters in Christ, and have also "connected" with the sincerely "curious" at the University (like Olecia, a beautiful young girl, who told us that she wanted to be a 'real Christian') and the Military Academy, and, hopefully, the government and military officials with whom we have talked. I sincerely believe that our times of sharing our faith with these groups are recorded in eternity and that someday we will know more fully the impact of the "open door" of opportunity that the Lord gave us in Kiev.

(To the many of our "Herald" readers who remembered us in prayer throughout this journey, we give our enduring and heartfelt thanks.) •

GOD *doesn't* Wear NIKES

by Deborah Willis

Sometimes I picture myself as an ant. (I know—that's weird. Bear with me.) So, I'm an ant, and I'm crawling. (That's what ants do.) I want to get to the ant hill. I have a vague sense of where I'm going, but I can't see it because of all the grass. In fact, the **only** thing I can see is grass. (OK—if I crane my neck **way back**, I can see a little bit of sky, but that's all.)

Grass in front of me, grass behind me, to the right and the left. But I know I have to get through this forest of grass to reach my destination. (Now where was I going? Oh, yeah. Home.) So I keep crawling. I dodge, I climb over, I squeeze under. I even chew through, if I have to. But still it keeps coming. Blade after blade. I no longer stop to look at the sky. I am focused on getting through the grass. Soon I even forget about the ant hill. All I think is, "Dodge. Grass. Climb. Grass. Squeeze. Grass. Chew. Grass."

It does not end. I move mechanically. Around. Over. Under. Through. I am exhausted. And then I can go no further. I have come to something too big to chew through. I see no way around it, and I certainly can't crawl under it. It is a mountain, and I have no choice but to go over it. I sit down and cry tiny tears of frustration and discouragement.

Then you come along. (You, who are still a human.) You say to me, "No, see . . . this isn't a mountain. It isn't even close. This is just

a mound of dirt left by a mole. Look. I can knock it down with one well-placed Nike." And you are, of course, right.

But in real life, God doesn't wear Nikes. He is totally in control, all knowing, and deeply involved in the journey of his "ants." But this does not guarantee us a smooth journey with neither grass nor twig nor mountain.

I suspect God has a pair of tennies in His closet, because there are occasional accounts of mountains being kicked down. But more times than not, He lets us struggle over the mountains. Yes, He's always with us. And yes, He loves us and wants only the best for us. But no, He doesn't always knock down our mountains.

"That doesn't make sense," you protest. "Mountains are painful. Mountains are hard. Why doesn't God just flatten them all?"

I must admit, I don't know for sure. After all, I'm only human. But if you will let me become an ant once again (come on, be a sport), maybe we can come closer to an answer.

I am no longer at the foot of the mountain. I am at the top. What I went through to get there, I don't want to remember. I am sore and bruised. I have a gash on leg #5 which may very well become a scar. But the worst is behind me.

LAMP LIGHT CHRONICLES

"Her Lamp does not go out at night"



As soon as I am strong enough, I begin to notice my surroundings. I am watching a cloud go by when it hits me—I'm above the grass. I can see for miles! My, but the big picture is bigger than I ever imagined. And what's that speck of brown on the horizon? It's the ant hill! Home. I had almost forgotten. It comes flooding back to me why I'm on this journey and where I'm going. I start down the mountain with renewed vigor.

On the way down I meet a fellow ant. Poor bug. He's going **up**. I stop to encourage him and to let him know I've been there. I even show him the gash on leg #5. He thanks me, but I can see that he's too tired to catch my optimism. Maybe he'll understand when he gets to the top.

I reach the foot of the mountain. More grass. But it doesn't seem so bad now. I've been to the top of a mountain and back. A blade of grass is no big deal.

Sure, sometimes I still catch myself letting the grass get to me, forgetting my destination. So I stop a bit, to remember what I saw from the mountaintop. Then things are back in perspective and I can journey on with confidence. Because I'm going home. •

(If you would like to write a short story for the Lamp Light Chronicles, please submit your stories to the Brethren Missionary Herald.)




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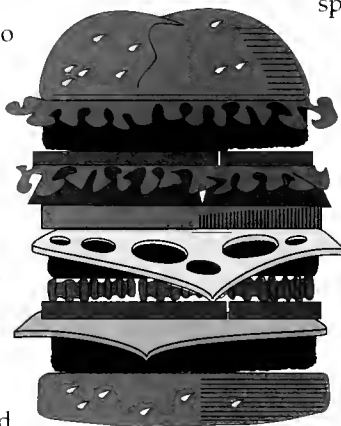
A Passion for Pickles



Jeff Carroll

Do you like pickles on your sandwich? I sure do!


Whether it's a cheeseburger or a ham sandwich, biting into the bun and tasting that crunchy "vinegarized" cucumber just electrifies my lunch. I like pickles, but according to pickle industry statistics, over the last decade only the same people were enjoying the same number of pickle servings. No matter how hard the various pickle companies tried, they could not get more people to eat more pickles. Sales were flat and stuck at \$700 million for 10 years. You might say that pickle sales had plateaued. (No wonder people are always giving me cucumbers!)



One company began to have a burden for this dilemma. That company was Vlassic, you might say they have a passion for pickles. What did they do? They began to study the habits of the pickle consumer. They asked their customers all kinds of questions like: "When did you eat your first pickle?" "How can we make our pickles better?" As Vlassic asked their customers the questions, the whole company listened instantly and purposefully. One answer

kept surfacing: People wanted their pickles sliced lengthwise so that one slice would cover the length of a sandwich.

Classic then took the idea to engineering. In a matter of months, a couple of engineers had developed a machine driven by air that could slice pickles lengthwise at high speeds. Interesting to note that in this whole development process the makeup and consistency of the pickles was not changed. The company's mission statement was not changed.



Nothing was changed except the way the pickles were sliced and when the world found out Well, pickle consumption increased 15% the first year. That's an additional \$105,000,000 in sales. Not bad for just a little innovation and repackaging of a good solid product.

Can we learn from companies like Vlassic? Can we innovate in the way we do church? Can we talk to the people that we want to reach? Can we change without changing the message? Can we be driven to the new ways to reach more people for Jesus Christ? We must, if we hope to survive! ^m

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Cover Photo: Ralph Colburn was a long time GBC Pastor. He recently went home to be with the Lord.

HUT . . . HUT . . . S.G.B.C.

Every church family prays for special opportunities to be used by God to touch the lives of others for His glory. We at Susquehanna Grace Brethren Church are well aware of the words of the Apostle Paul as recorded in Ephesians 3:20, 21.

"Now to Him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to His power that is at work in us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations for ever and ever! Amen."

This promise came alive in a spectacular fashion during the Fall

of 1964, when our church family hosted every pregame meal during the season for the Golden Knights Football Team from Eastern York High School.

The human element in this ministry included church family football parents, Fred and Ruth Craver, and the head coach of the team, Roger Getz. Each week prior to the meal one of the men of the church led the team in a devotional and prayer. Always giving rapt attention and genuine appreciation were members of the team, the coaching staff, trainers, medical technician, and a number of the players' parents.

The grand finale of the 1994 season was the football banquet,

hosted by the church. Dr. Roy Roberts was the guest speaker for the occasion. He totally connected with the audience. The gift of a Bible was presented to each member of the team from the church family.

This initial experience was repeated for the 1995 season just completed. The expressions of gratitude from the team members, coaches, and parents continue.

We are praising the Lord for the unique opportunity of sharing Him and the privilege of demonstrating genuine friendship within our community. We are confident that "His Word will prosper where He sends it." ■

SISTER CHURCHES WORKING TOGETHER

by Pastor Dan White

The psalmist said it well:

"Behold, how good and pleasant it is for brothers (sisters) to dwell together in unity!" (Ps. 133:1).

And not only dwell together, but also to find a common ground to work together in reaching out to a needy world for our Lord.

The relationship of the Susquehanna and York Grace Brethren Churches in York County, Pennsylvania has been one not

unlike that of many others in a general geographic area—congenial when together, but not necessarily making the time to get together. Committed to the same overall purpose of reaching people, but not really taking the time and effort to work together to accomplish it.

The theme of the 1994 district conference and the message of the moderator, Rev. Les Nutter, also pastor of the Susquehanna GBC, set in motion a series of events that have changed all that—for now, and hopefully for the future.

"Keeping fellowship in our fellowship" was Pastor Nutter's call to all churches in our district. The challenge was to explore ways to encourage interchurch fellowship and possible cooperative outreach events.

The week immediately following the district conference, the two churches celebrated a Memorial Day picnic on the grounds of the York church. The pre-summer gathering was reciprocated in September,

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SO LONG, PASTOR DICK

by Joan Tsibouris

Pastor Dick DeArmey leaves a long legacy of touching lives through preaching, counseling, writing, and teaching. It was a joy to speak with many of those he touched as I informed them he went to be with the Lord on September 14, 1995.

As Pastor Dick's secretary for the past ten years, I had the opportunity of witnessing many of the changes his wise counsel brought about in people's lives. It was deeply rewarding to hear so many of those folks testify to how Pastor Dick had helped get them on the right track. One woman who did not have a good

relationship with her father said, "If I could have chosen a father, it would have been Pastor Dick."

As Pastor Dick's heart attacks began to come closer and closer together in the past few years, he was forced to reduce his teaching and counseling schedule. Retirement was not an option for this dear servant of God. Instead, he undertook a much heavier writing schedule. Certainly he realized that he could reach far more people through his writings than in counseling sessions.

At the time of his homegoing, Pastor Dick had completed six months of his

"Elephants & Onions" devotional series, the last of 30 booklets he wrote. He had hoped the Lord would allow him to finish that project. Indeed, he might have done so except for the fact that he kept getting ideas for other writing projects that intervened! Those ideas for new booklets came faster than his hand could write.


Pastor Dick, we will miss the twinkle in your eye, your corny jokes, your wealth of knowledge of the human condition, your love of Bible study, and your uncomplaining spirit in the face of major health problems. But how great it is to know that we will meet again! ❧

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Crossing the Boundaries in Christian Social Concerns

..... by Donald P. Shoemaker

In a Christian ethics class I taught at Biola University, I occasionally heard students speak of the "Biola Bubble." Since I was just a naive part-time faculty member, I asked them to explain to me what this bubble was all about.

The "Biola Bubble" (or any bubble Christians inhabit, for that matter) is a man-made separation chamber. Inside the bubble we go about our religious routine and speak our pious platitudes. But we do not really penetrate the wall of the bubble to have a real impact on the world outside. Nor can outsiders easily look in.

But if we will really stop, look and listen to the world around us, if we will really listen to the summons of the Gospel, we will break out of our bubbles and enter the world for mission.

Folks, if we're living in a bubble, it's time to wake up and smell the coffee. The world around us is challenging us at every turn.

Recently, my daughter found herself in a very awkward situation. She's a teller at a credit union. The customer was very obnoxious and made some very racist comments which were heard by the woman she wanted to insult. My daughter must respond to that situation from the values her Christian faith gives her. What should she have done?

Last month, I walked around a corner in a public place and came upon two men who were engaging in sex. There they were, together, right in front of me. When you see that, you know you're out of your bubble. What should I do?

Last week our church received a threatening form letter in the mail. It called for assassinations and claimed that these killings were morally justified. It said the assassinations would start with leaders of the news media, including the news managers of all the local Los Angeles TV stations. I phoned the information to my local newspaper and to a TV station and I called the police who came and took a report.

To others who may have seen these threats: What did you do about them? Did you throw them away? Did you chuckle as you passed them around the office staff? How your answer may reveal whether or not you live in a bubble!

Here are two kinds of bubbles that keep us from biblical social concerns: One is the isola-

tionist bubble. Christians who dwell safely and securely inside isolationist bubbles have certain luxuries which Christians with a world-view of their mission can't enjoy. Inside the bubble we can spend our time debating exotic issues. We can count the angels on a pin. We can see who has the most detailed and exciting prophecy chart. We can think of new ways to defend the rules of our subculture. We can ignore the fact that the world writes us off as "irrelevant." After all, Jesus said we'd be rejected. We don't have to listen to the cry of the widow or the orphan. The cause of justice on our doorstep or the suffering on the other side of the world need not disturb us. Bubbles are quite sound-proof. And they obscure our vision.

Another bubble is the nationalist bubble. In this bubble we think first as Americans, second as Christians. God and Caesar have become inverted.

I recently watched a Christian TV program where the speaker stood in front of a stage set draped in red, white and blue. On the background were the words, "Believe in America." Now, I could accept that banner, maybe, at a labor union rally. But on a Christian program it's borderline idolatry. The Bible calls us to believe in God while we honor our country. Seems I read on a coin somewhere, "In God we trust."

Our God and our Gospel call us out of our bubbles and make us Christians with a view of the whole world. How so? Here are five quick points:

First, there is but one true and living God who is King of all the earth. God is not the God of so-called "sacred things" alone nor is He just a national god. He is Lord of all.

Second, there is one morality which is right anywhere you go. Even in the Old Testament, when God is yet working through a particular earthly nation, the call of the prophets is a call to all nations for justice and compassion.

Third, there is one humanity, made in God's image and likeness, with a God-shaped void in

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BIBLE PROPECHY & *Scientific fact*

..... by Dr. Nathan M. Meyer

Thirty-six years ago (after being in the ministry 12 years) the Lord very definitely directed me into the specialized work of Bible Conferences dealing specifically with Bible Prophecy. I didn't hear a voice, but the call was so definite and so strong I knew I had no choice. From that time to this, there has never been any doubt in my mind concerning God's will for my life.

Over half of the Bible is prophecy. The Holy Spirit, by divine inspiration, directed Bible writers to record exactly, and in detail, the whole future history of the world and of the human race—all the way into the eternal ages. Nobody but God can do that with 100% accuracy. People can guess about tomorrow, but only God can write history in advance. I find that extremely fascinating. It is one of the irrefutable proofs that the Bible is of divine origin.

"Bible prophecies are more certain than the Law of Gravity," says world famous scientist, Dr. Hugh Ross who has a Ph.D. in astronomy. He grew up with no knowledge of God, but in studying the complexity and orderliness of the universe, he reasoned there just might be a creator, whether a "being or a thing."

His question was, "If there is a creator, has he revealed himself?" To find an answer, he read each of the major books which the chief religions of the world claimed to have come from their god.

Dr. Ross decided to compare each one with known facts of history

and science to see how many errors he could find. He knew that no book written by mere men was completely free from scientific errors. He reasoned that if there was a book that really came from the creator, it would not be full of mistakes.

Dr. Ross kept a notebook listing all the errors he could find relative to history and science. He was amazed how long his lists were for every single book except one.

The Bible was so different. "Literally every page," he said, "had an abundance of scientific and historical statements," that he could check. Furthermore, he said that unlike the others, the Bible was written in very clear, precise terms—"very direct, very clear and very plain."

Except for the Bible, he found no book that got the order of creation correct. For example, they put animals before plants so the animals would have had nothing to eat.

He used his scientific expertise to calculate the probability that Moses could get all thirteen events listed in the Genesis creation story in exactly the right order to be one chance in six trillion. That really made him think.

He studied the Bible every night for a year, at the end of which time his Bible notebook, intended for listing scientific and historical errors, did not have a single entry. After years of intensive study, he concluded that the Bible was never wrong.

As an astronomer, he was surprised to discover that 2700 years ago (long before Columbus) Isaiah said the earth was round (Isa. 40:22).

He found the Second Law of Thermodynamics and much about the stars. He learned facts about the star-cluster Pleiades that were only verified in the *Astronomical Journal* a year after he found them in the Bible. It was in the book of Job 3500 years ago. He was very impressed.

He found hundreds of scientific statements and thousands of historical statements in the Bible—every one of which he found to be precise and correct.

Isaiah wrote 150 years before it happened that a king named Cyrus would set the Jewish captives free and give them money to go home and rebuild their temple. Nothing like it ever happened before or since, but every detail Isaiah foretold happened as predicted.

Dr. Ross found about 300 very specific prophecies relating to Jews going into exile twice and finally returning to the land that God gave them. He spent many hours in the library using microfilm and newspaper accounts to check out the Biblical predictions concerning the Jews, their land, it's desolation and final productivity. He couldn't find one mistake and most of these prophecies were fulfilled since 1940.

Jeremiah listed, by name and order, nine settlements that would be built to expand Jerusalem after the Jews returned the second time. Every one has been fulfilled exactly as foretold and in the right order.

Dr. Ross calculated that the chance of Jeremiah getting this all

..... (Continued on page 18)



ONE on ONE with The People We Meet

PAUL & CINDY MICHAELS

Russian Missionaries



Q: I'm talking with Paul and Cindy Michaels. You are missionaries to central Russia, also known as western Siberia. The capital of Siberia is Novosibirsk. How did you come to go to Siberia?

A: We heard news of Russia opening up and we rejoiced in that as Bible college students. I remember praying for Russia and the gospel to help freedom to spread throughout that country. So, we were encouraged by the news and the only way I can explain it is that when we heard this news it became a burden that would not go away. I talked with Cindy about the possibility of our going to Russia and the more we prayed about it the more God confirmed in our hearts that this is what he wanted us to do. I would say that one of the things that the Lord used was the need in Russia. We lived, at that time, in Lexington, Kentucky, a city of 250,000 with more than 200 evangelical churches in it. We were hearing reports of cities of half a million in Russia that didn't have any churches in it and as we heard that need, God pulled on our hearts and we went.

Q: Where did you go to Bible college?

A: I went to Philadelphia College of Bible.

Q: Is that where you met Cindy?

A: No, I'll let Cindy answer that.

Paul and I met at Hatfield Biblical Seminary. I was a nurse working in the evenings and taking classes during the day and that's where we met.

Q: How long have you been married?

A: 13 years

Q: How many children?

A: We have three children, Benjamin 12; Andrea 10; and Josiah 8.

Q: And how do they adjust to life in Russia?

A: They've done great! The children in Russia are very accepting of foreign children. Foreign children are very unusual. The children that know my kids are the first foreign children they've ever met and that really helps the children adjust to the culture. The children wanted them to be their friends right away. They've been great.

Q: Do either of you speak Russian?

A: Not much. I speak a little bit. I understand a lot more than I speak. So, I haven't studied Russian as much as Cindy has or the children have. I stopped studying Russian probably a year ago once I reached the point of being able to function on the day to day stuff. I realized that for me, to become fluent in Russian, I had to make a great commitment to it. We had decided on our first term to focus on ministry primarily and that's what I've done. I haven't picked up Russian as much as I'd like. But, that will come.

Q: Are the kids learning Russian in school?

A: I home school them, but they are being tutored four days a week in the Russian language and they play with other kids that don't speak English. So that helps.

Q: What's your day like, Cindy?

A: Well, in the mornings, of course, I teach the children and I do a lot of food shopping. We don't have a car

(Continued on page 10)



so we have to walk to a lot of different places to get food and carry it home. There is a lot of waiting in lines and finding food. That's a large part of my day.

Q: I heard that you started eight churches. Tell me about that.

A: We've used several different methods in starting churches. We've had short term teams come and saturate the area with the gospel and through the core of new believers that have resulted in that outreach. We have started Grace Church. We've also had the privilege of training Russian men throughout southwest Siberia. In fact, they've trained about 95 men in regional centers in Siberia. I train them in church planting, so some of them have accepted the challenge of starting some new churches. As a result, they have altogether started eight and I would say over 300 adults have come to faith in Christ.

Q: Are these all Grace Brethren Churches?

A: No. Grace Church is Grace Brethren, but the others are all national churches, primarily the Russian Baptist Churches.

Q: That is really exciting! Is there much political unrest?

A: Yes. There is a lot of political unrest because of what is taking place economically in the country. We're experiencing 20% inflation a month officially. I think it's worse than that, but that has caused incredible financial problems for the families in Russia, in particular for the pensioners. As a result of the great difficulties that the Russians are experiencing in the inflation, it makes things very unpredictable. It makes living very unpredictable. People want change and so I really think they will go to the extent of electing someone like Sherenoski who is a Fascist. We don't know what will happen with him if he becomes president.

Q: He has a lot of support there?

A: Yes, he does. He was elected the head of the Parliament, so he has already gained a lot of approval politically. We'll go from here if he becomes president.

Q: What do you hope to do this year?

A: What we did in the past, primarily plant churches in Novosibirsk. Six of the eight churches are planted in the city, but our desire is to extend throughout western Siberia. Our vision for this next year is to plant eight churches in the four different regions around us. This coming summer, we will invite sixteen twelve member teams to come for two weeks and to carry out a saturation evangelism strategy. We initially spread the gospel as much as we can through a village or through a region in a major city. Then, through those who have come to faith in Christ, we start a church. Lord willing, we will start eight new churches with that strategy as Westerners come for a two week term to be used of God in that way.

Q: Do you have any other helpers on the way or would you like to have more help?

A: We do have some young ladies who are coming to work with us that we really praise the Lord for, who will be able to develop our women's ministries that we have, that we haven't really been able to develop. We are thankful for the young women who are going to come and head those works. But, at this point, we don't have any men who are preparing to come and so it's something that we really have been praying for. I hope that God will raise up a couple of men who have a Bible foundation and some ministry experience and a heart to win people to Christ. I think that if the Lord raises up a few more men to join our team, we can continue to expand what God is doing there.

Q: Do you ever feel your lives are in jeopardy or is there a strong military presence there? Do you ever feel threatened?

A: No, we don't right now. There is peace between foreign people. We have been very warmly received by the Russian people. We are not being watched. You know, they have their structure, the Communist structure, which is pretty much in place. We see military presence everywhere, but we don't feel threatened in any way. One thing that has happened, especially in the last year, is that the spiritual battle has intensified. The Orthodox Church has stepped up very much so. They attack and oppose Protestantism, and a particular form of Protestantism, which is helping to see Protestant Churches planted throughout Russia. They see that as a real threat to the power they would like to have once again over the country. We experience a lot of opposition from them, propaganda in newspaper, radio and television. Weekly, we see the stuff and so I think that the spiritual conflict is intensifying.

Q: Cindy, do you get to use any of your nursing skills in any way?

A: I use my nursing skills in the family and with the Russian people who come to me. I think I would have to be fluent in the language before I could do that on an official basis with the people.

Thank you very much! It's really exciting what you're doing there. mb

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Junior Quizzing More Than A

... Children's Bible Quizzing by Mark Vandegrift

Names like Taylor, Kear, Steiner, Bonar and Wiley may not ring a bell, but these are just a handful of quizzers involved in past Northeastern Ohio district quiz teams. And each one is currently or has been involved in junior quizzing.

As with many good programs, a "feeder" system is often present to maintain stability and quality within the program. NEO has had such a system in place for well over 15 years. Junior quizzing, a vital program in the NEO district, allows students in Grades 3-6 to experience a quiz program with less competition, less materials and less pressure than that experienced in senior quizzing. Students can get their "feet wet" and still enjoy the benefits of quizzing: studying Scripture; gaining better study habits; learning discipline, leadership, confidence and public speaking skills; enjoying fellow quizzers from other district churches; and burying God's Word deep in their young hearts.

Junior quizzing does not vary much from the senior quizzing format. Quizzes are still run using the national guidelines, including type number of questions, point values, errors, bonuses, doctrinal questions, fouls, time limitations, etc. Stats are maintained and prizes are awarded at the end of the year for the top six quizzers, highest team average, most improved team, participant and spitshine award. However, the amount of material covered is less than that of the senior quizzers. For example, the national quiz program is currently studying Hebrews and 1 & 2 Peter. The junior quizzers are studying Hebrews only. Also, there is not a rally winner; each team quizzes four times and point totals for each quiz are not emphasized (i.e. coaches and quizmasters do not declare winner and loser). This portion of each rally is meant to mirror standard "jump question" quizzing.

To end each rally, a quizdown occurs. Each quizzer, in succession, is asked a regular jump question not used in the previous rounds of standard quizzing. Each quizzer has 30 seconds to answer the question. A quizzer has two errors available and questions continue



These young people are involved with the Junior district quiz teams in Northeastern Ohio. The quiz teams are made up of third and sixth graders.

to be asked until only one quizzer remains. Points are awarded to the top 15 quizdown finishers. At the end of the year, an award is given to the most accumulated quizdown points. This portion of the quiz rally allows those quizzers to participate who have studied the material but are too shy to jump.

It is interesting to note that this level exhibits very high quality quizzing. Very few errors occur because the students have a great ability to memorize the material. Comments from parents indicate that most of the students involved make quizzing a top priority because they are not pulled in as many directions as high school students (i.e. sports, choir, band).

The benefits are obvious! The wonderful exercise of studying and memorizing large portions of scripture on a regular basis does not need to wait until seventh grade. If you would like more information on junior quizzing, please write or call:

Mark Vandegrift
704 29th St. NE
Canton, OH 44714
Home: 216-456-5630
Work: 216-493-9900



For quizzing resources, contact CE National at P.O. Box 365, Winona Lake, IN 46590 or call (219) 267-6622. For specific questions relating to Bible Quizzing for grades 7-12, contact Ray Feather, National Quizmaster, at the Sunnyside GBC or Scott Feather, Associate National Quizmaster, at Grace Schools.

WMC MISSIONARY

Becky Schwan, England

My name is Becky Schwan (maiden name Julien). I was born in Ft. Wayne, IN, but when I was two, my brother Terry, my sister Jacqueline, and I went to France with our parents. We lived at The Chateau (that was fun) and attended French public schools. Mom and Dad kept informed of what we were learning, especially in high school, so we could talk through it at the supper table and compare it to what God teaches us in the Bible.

I asked the Lord to come into my life when I was 6 years old at a VBS program in Winona Lake. As I grew, I learned more about what Jesus had done for me. I struggled during my junior year and finally rededicated my life to God and had a great senior year. I started a small Bible study at school and also was able to witness to some of my teachers.

I attended Bob Jones and Grace College and graduated from Grace in 1978, then took a teaching job at Dayton Christian High School. I met David, my husband, at church there. (He was the cute guitarist who occasionally did special music, and was a music teacher.) We were married in 1981.

We have three children. David is 13 in senior school. He is very outgoing, a leader in his circle of friends, and has been a real asset to us in our ministry. His hobbies are soccer, juggling, and badminton. Rachel is 11 in junior school. She is quieter than David and is good around people. She is generous with everything she owns and is sensitive to the needs of others. Philip is seven in elementary school.

He is our "miracle boy," having had two heart operations when he was nine months old. He is a little ray of sunshine, loves to read, and just learned to swim. (His daddy hopes he will be the musician of the family!)

We went to England in 1990 after David graduated from Grace Seminary. We live in the town of Shirley, a suburb of Birmingham, in a semi-detached house (a duplex), on a very busy road. We are fortunate to have a house with adequate space.

The main goal of our team is to plant churches that will be self sufficient (with national leaders)



The Schwans serve as missionaries in England. Seated left to right are David, Rachel, Becky, Philip, and David.

and growing. Our responsibilities are varied, but they all center around meeting people or helping with activities that will give people an opportunity to hear the gospel. We are involved in puppet clubs, a preteen group and Bible studies. David preaches occasionally and has started a guitar club which has given him good opportunities to contact men. I have ladies coffees and we entertain in our home. Building trust takes time and response has been slow, but we now have

several new families in our church and we are growing.

My spiritual goal is to know God better each day! A lot of times I equate my spiritual life with my service for the Lord, or what I'm learning, but the Lord just wants me, as a living sacrifice. He wants me to slow down, listen, and just spend time with Him.

I think I'm a missionary today because my parents had such a positive influence on my life as a missionary kid. We ministered as a family, and we kids felt included in what our parents were doing. We knew that Mom and Dad had a real burden for the souls of people, as the ministry was at times hard and discouraging. That instilled in us the desire to do something significant with our lives, whether on the mission field or at home.

Asked about SMM and WMC Becky said:

We didn't have SMM when I was growing up in France, but SMM groups did nice things for me as an MK—letters, gifts, and they prayed for me!

The WMC women back home have been such an encouragement to me, and to many others. I've

often said that WMC is the "personal touch" in missions. It really helps to receive letters and cards assuring you that you're not alone, and that you are loved and cared for and prayed for! My WMC's also have been so generous and creative with their gifts; they really are a wonderful group of ladies.

Joy Sims, France

I grew up in a small town in far northeastern Pennsylvania and have an older sister and a younger

ES OF THE YEAR

brother. We used to joke that we only slept in Pennsylvania, but lived in New York, since almost all of our schooling was in New York as well as my parents' jobs and our church. My parents are committed Christians and we were raised in an atmosphere of faith.

In junior church, when I was seven, I surrendered my life to the Lord, but it wasn't until high school that I began to take my faith seriously. I was well grounded in the Scriptures and had many good role models. My mom is very hospitable and I see the value of growing up in a home that was open to different kinds of people. This model has especially helped me in my present ministry. I was exposed to missions and missionaries and learned to know them as real people. Our independent Baptist Church is one of our supporting churches now.

After high school, I attended Word of Life for a year. There I grew in faith and was deeply challenged to consider missions as a vocation. At the WOL missions conference, I gave my life to the Lord for foreign mission service. That same night, I had my first "date" with Mark Sims from Columbus, Ohio, who had also committed his life that night for foreign missions.

Then, I enrolled at Tennessee Temple College and Mark began his studies at Columbia Bible College. As our relationship continued to deepen, we saw God's hand leading us together, and I transferred to CBC.

In 1978, we received a letter from a former professor at WOL who was serving in France. He sent us a book, *France, Forgotten Mission Field*, and asked us to consider the field of France. We took this as the Lord's direction and began gathering information about France.

We were married in 1980 and graduated from CBC in 1981. That

summer, we learned of the Euro-Missions Institute—a firsthand exposure to missions in France, sponsored by the Grace Brethren Fellowship of Churches in which Mark had been raised. Although the deadline had passed when we heard of the opportunity, Mark submitted our application by phone, and several days later, we learned that we had been accepted! God used those six weeks in France to further confirm His direction for us.

Following Mark's graduation from Grace Seminary in 1986, we returned to Columbus, Ohio,



The Sims serve as missionaries in France. Seated left to right are Joy, Gabriel, and Mark.

to work with the GBC which was now my home church as well.

In August, 1987, we added a very important member to our family, our son, Gabriel Mark. In September, 1988, we were able to leave for France. God was faithful to keep us on track those many years. We are praying that God will add more children to our family, but He has chosen to say no up to this point. Gabriel started first grade this year and attends a private school which is a 15-minute walk from our home.

We live in the town of Macon in a third floor three bedroom apartment, five minutes by foot from the main shopping area of town, and across the street from the train station. We work with the GBC in Macon, the oldest existing work of GBIM in France.

My main ministry is to my family and I take this very seriously. I believe the mom sets the tone for the home. I have many friends (most of them not yet Christians) and enjoy seeing them in their homes or at mine for coffee and times to talk. I see

these occasions as great vehicles for evangelism. And our family plans time for inviting other couples and families for meals. I am also teaching English to young children. I teach a five to eight-year-old Sunday school class, and with two French women, teach a Good News Club.

I want to thank the WMC ladies for their faithful prayer support and practical interest in missions. Mark and I both believe wholeheartedly that WMC groups are a vital link between missionaries and their supporting churches. We encourage you to keep your focus on the world. We appreciate your cards, missionary chests, and projects you invest in year after year. We love you!

Each year several missionary women are chosen to be honored as WMC Missionaries of the Year. Becky and Joy are two of four selected for 1995-96.

More information about these ladies is in the WMC Program Packet. You may obtain either a slide/tape or a video to introduce them to your WMC. Order from Grace Brethren International Missions, P.O. Box 588, Winona Lake, IN 46590 (phone 219-267-5161). Please give the desired date, indicate your media choice (video or slide/tape) and include a love gift to cover expenses.

PASTOR RALPH COLBURN

a Man of Service

Pastor Ralph Colburn was born October 22, 1916, in Wheatland, North Dakota, the youngest of three boys. He moved to Pomona, California the summer of 1923, after finishing the first grade in Wheatland. He accepted Jesus as his Savior in a boys and girls after-school Bible class in Pomona, March 28, 1928. His whole family became believers or assured of salvation about that time. They helped start a new Grace Fundamental Church in Pomona in early 1929. They were baptized by single immersion together as a family. They moved to Long Beach, CA, late in the summer of 1929. The first church they visited was First Brethren in Long Beach on Labor Day weekend, because they knew the speaker was a great one. They never did get around to visiting any other churches, as they fell in love with "Fifth and Cherry" and its pastor, Dr. L. S. Bauman. They were baptized as a family by trine immersion in 1930.

Pastor Ralph graduated from Hamilton Junior High in January 1930. Graduated from Long Beach Poly High in June 1933 (the year of the big Long Beach earthquake!). Taught boys Sunday school class in First Brethren from 1932-38 (different classes). Sang in a male quartet in church, which was also part of a gospel team, 1933-38. Graduated from Long Beach City College (two years) in February 1936. Enrolled in Bible Institute of Los Angeles, Fall of 1936, lived on campus two years. Graduated from Biola, 1949, with a Th. B degree, a special four year course they were offering at that time, which included best of Bible Institute practical studies, and much seminary level work (three years Greek, two years Hebrew, two years Systematic Theology, etc.). Ralph enrolled in Westmont College, first year of its existence as a college, September 1940, graduated with a B.A. in the first graduating class (four members) in 1941. Ralph's father died in late September 1938, necessi-

tating moving home from Biola, commuting, taking over his father's business to support self and mother.

He began a branch Sunday school and church from First Brethren in Naples, June 1939, called Lighthouse Community Church, and pastored this until December 1941, right after Pearl Harbor. Sunday school grew from 22 to 66 in one year, and church from 12 to 40 in that year. He started a high school group in a home in Seal Beach in Fall of 1940, in which attendance reached 50(+) and over 40 received Christ as Saviour.

Ralph served as interim pastor at Whittier First Brethren three



Ralph Colburn.

months of 1942. He was called to serve as pastor of First Brethren Church of Compton, May 1942 through December 1947. He was called to be Brethren's first National Youth Director, January 1948 through September 1954. He travelled extensively over the country. Married Julia Rowland at First Brethren Church of Inglewood, CA, April 10, 1954.

Ralph founded the Grace Brethren Church of Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, in January 1955. He saw it grow in 13

years to 300(+) members, with Sunday school attendance peaked at 600(+). He helped found two other Grace Brethren Churches in the immediate area and three others in the state of Florida during those years. Both of their sons were born in Ft. Lauderdale: Mark Jonathan, July 31, 1955; and Timothy Joel, May 31, 1958.

He came back to California in April 1968 to become pastor of Community Grace Brethren of Long Beach, served there for 10 years. He taught 11th grade Bible at Brethren High School for six of those years. Both sons graduated from Brethren High. Ralph was invited to join the staff of North Long Beach Brethren in May 1978 as associate pastor to seniors. Ten happy and effective years of ministry ensued. When North Long Beach merged with Rossmoor, he continued in the capacity of pastor to seniors along with other responsibilities.

Pastor Ralph served from 1959 to 1995 on the Brethren Missionary Herald Board of Trustees, as Vice President, President, and Treasurer of that board. In 1960-61, he served as National Moderator of our Fellowship of Churches. He has served as alumni president of both Biola and Westmont in the 1940's.

The memorial service for Pastor Ralph Colburn was held at Grace Church in Los Alamitos on Friday, January 19th. What a send off it was! Participating pastors were Ron Jackson, Dr. George Peak, Dr. David Miller, Dr. Mick Ukleja, and giving the benediction was Dr. David Hocking. Ralph told me once that he used to change Dave Hocking's diaper in the nursery. Part of the service was a video of Ralph himself on his death bed telling of his love for the Lord and his looking forward to arriving in Heaven. What a model for all of us. Ralph was a Pastor's Pastor and we will miss him much. 1000 people were present, all in some way touched by Ralph Colburn's life. ■■

Catching Up With . . .

by Tom Felten

Here's a little trivia question to tease your memory: In what city did Jerry Lucas and the USA hoops squad capture the Olympic Gold medal in 1960?

(Insert Jeopardy final question theme music here.)

Time's up.

If you said Rome, (ding, ding, ding) you are obviously either a sports nut or a graduate of the Lucas Learning System.

"The Lucas Learn . . . ?"

We'll get to that later.

Now, if your memory is really good, you'll also recall that Jerry was the first basketball player on the planet to win a high school state title (Middletown, Ohio), an NCAA crown (Ohio State), an Olympic gold medal (USA), and an NBA ring (Knicks).

Not bad. But his most important victory happened 3 months after he left the game, when he discovered God's plan for his life. "I found Christ from reading the Bible," he says. "Tremendous change took place in my life, and I wanted to draw closer [to God]. The next year I used my memory principles to memorize the entire New Testament."

Yes, you read that correctly.

When Jerry first began understanding the process of what he calls "automatic learning" and developed his amazing way to remember information, he would tutor business types in seminars. These days his Lucas Learning System seminars are held mainly in churches.

Here's what the big man with the deft outside touch (Remember the Lucas lay-up—the 15- to 20-foot "J" that would rain all day?) says about the seminars that have touched a multitude of people:

"On Sunday morning I preach a family relationship sermon. I teach people how to memorize the whole sermon as I preach it. They walk out

with the ability to repeat an entire 10-point sermon, and they can't believe it.

"On Sunday evening I have a how-to-learn seminar. I raise people's confidence. I show them that God has gifted them with tremendous skills that they've not been taught to use. I compare learning prior to school with learning after entering school. They see a huge difference in understanding how the learning process really works in what I call 'automatic learning.'

"As children, we are taught by our parents as they point to and identify objects. For instance, we see a chair, and without realizing it we register a picture in our mind. It's an automatic gift God put in us."

In his seminars, Jerry builds on this understanding to help people improve their memory and succeed in Bible memorization, academics, as well as their personal lives. On Monday night, he holds another learning seminar that goes deeper into the learning process and helps his listeners remember names of new people they meet.

He also gives his testimony and explains the gospel of Jesus Christ in this session—the main message he wants everyone to hear.

An incredible event took place in Jerry's life several years ago after he gave his testimony at one of his weekend seminars.

But first, some background. When Lucas was in his twenties, his parents divorced, and both remarried other spouses. After Lucas accepted Christ, he witnessed to his mother and stepfather, and they both asked Christ to be their Savior. His father, who had struggled with an alcohol addiction for years, would have nothing to do with Jerry's faith.




Jerry Lucas

Pro Basketball Player 1963–1974.

After countless attempts to tell his father about Jesus Christ, Jerry called him once more when he was home in Ohio to speak at his stepfather's funeral. Again, his father said, "No." So Lucas was surprised to see his father at the funeral.

Jerry asked him to attend a Sunday service he was leading in a local church and the elder Lucas agreed to go! While Jerry was giving the invitation, his father accepted Christ. Since that time, his dad has not had even a sip of alcohol. What's more, Mr. and Mrs. Lucas have remarried.

Jerry's kids—five of them, ages 18 to 32—and his wife Cheri are the other key people in his life. And even with five kids, something tells me Jerry has no problem remembering their names.

It's automatic! 

Lucas Linkup

For more information on Jerry Lucas' seminars or the Lucas Learning System, write to: Jerry Lucas, PO Box 728, Templeton, CA 93465.

(Printed from the February 1996 issue of *Sports Spectrum*.)

GRACE BRETHREN NEWS UPDATE

Touching You from Around the World

Chaplain James Schaefer now resides at 3547 Kelburn Drive, Fayetteville, NC 28311-2041.

Reverend Charles Bearinger has been pastoring the First Brethren Church of Buena Vista, VA, since February 1, 1996.

Bruce and Lisa Triplehorn, missionaries to Brazil, had a new baby boy, Jonathan Paul, born on December 21, 1995.

Mark and JoAnna Berndt, missionaries in the Czech Republic, had Sara Kristine on December 23, 1995. The Doctors advised them to have an abortion, warned that the

baby had Down's Syndrome. The baby is perfectly healthy.

Larry and Cammie Robbins serve with the Wycliffe in Zaire. December 17, 1995, Sunday morning at 3:00 a.m., a group of armed robbers broke in the Robbins' home. They threatened the Robbins and stole many of their possessions (nothing essential to their work). It was a terrifying experience for them. After the robbers left, the Robbins gathered together to thank the Lord that they were not hurt. They could sense God's angels protecting them.

They are deeply grateful for the director, Steve Anderson, who came over and spent the morning

debriefing the Robbins. The Regional Security Officer of the American Embassy, who is a Christian, came to investigate and took charge of official matters. He helped make the Robbins' home more secure, and he set in motion certain precautions to make sure the Robbins were not hit again.

Pastor Quentin Mathis has sets of the Brethren Missionary Herald magazine for sale dating back to 1960. If you are interested call him at 614-878-6625.

Mike and Myra Taylor, missionaries in Africa, had Joanna Abigail on November 20, 1995.

Knepper's Alaskan Fish N' Camp

is a "Christian Fisherman's Retreat" for men and boys centered around God's Word. It will hold two camps this summer: July 7-13, 1996 and July 14-20, 1996. Pastor Ed Jackson of Worthington, Ohio, once



Ed Jackson.

pastored the Kenai Grace Brethren Church. He has a genuine love for the Alaskan outdoors and for the men, he will be the speaker at the first camp. The speaker for the second camp will be Camp Director, Col. John Schumacher. He has dedicated his life to the outreach of men as a U.S. Army Chaplain.



John Schumacher.

For more information or for our brochure contact J. M. Knepper, Knepper's Alaskan Fish N' Camp, 10761 Los Alamitos Boulevard, Los Alamitos, CA [Tel. (310) 425-4001].

Madelyn P. (Comeford) Shipley—born September 13, 1922; died September 20, 1995. Madelyn grew up in the Peru GBC and was married on June 16, 1946 to Charles E. Shipley of Dayton, Ohio. The couple served in the First Brethren Church until 1959 when they moved to St. Petersburg, Florida and upon their return to Dayton in 1965. They were later active in the Basore Road GBC before retiring and moving back to St. Pete in 1986.

Charles passed away in February of 1993. Madelyn was subsequently diagnosed with pulmonary fibrosis to which she finally succumbed at the home of her cousin, Janet Cooper of Florida. She is survived by her three sons: David, Steven, and Greg.

The Grace Brethren Community Fellowship, 17651 New 38 Avenue, Okeechobee, FL has dissolved. They have joined the Grace Brethren Church at 701 South Parrott Avenue, Okeechobee, FL, so writes Pastor Larry Zimmerman.



Cuyahoga Falls GBC closed its doors on December 23, 1995. The building in Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio is up for sale by Brethren Home Missions. Walt Malick, former pastor, has informed BMH news.

The Brethren Missionary Herald has sent out a new leadership letter to leaders of the Fellowship. It is called the *Leader's Edge*.

Here are a few reminders about the Women's Ministry Retreat:

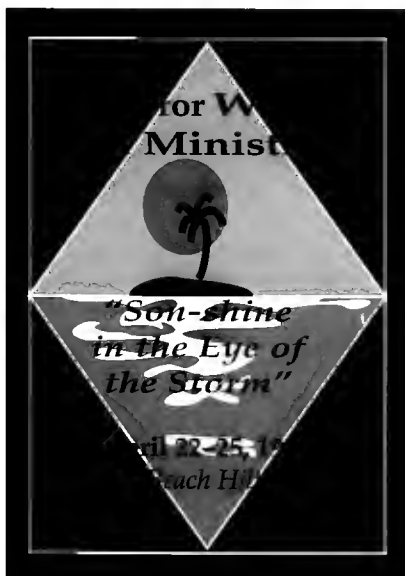
- (March 22nd is the last day to register for the Retreat.)
- Hotel Reservation is due March 22nd.
- Hotel check-in starts Monday, April 22, 2:00 p.m.
- First session together starts Monday, April 22, 7:00 p.m.
- Retreat will conclude Thursday, April 25, noon.
- Shuttles can be arranged to/from the Orlando airport.
- Contact Gladys Deloe or Kathy Allison at (219) 267-5262 or Millie Davis at (904) 373-7235.

See you and 299 others in April!

Steve Makofka, Pastor of Youth and Family Ministries, was ordained to the Christian ministry by the Grace Brethren Church of Greater Atlanta on Sunday, November 26, 1995, during the morning worship service. Guest speaker for the occasion was Dr. David Plaster, Vice President for Academic Affairs of Grace Schools. Dr. Plaster has made a significant contribution to Steve Makofka's life during the past seventeen years, both as pastor and seminary professor. Sharing in the ordination ceremony, in addition to other members of the local church, were Reverend Bill Byers and Pastor Dean Fetterhoff. A reception for Steve and Lorrie and their family followed the service in the fellowship hall of the church.



Steve Makofka was ordained by David Plaster, Reverend Bill Byers, and Pastor Dean Fetterhoff in the GBC of Greater Atlanta, November 26, 1995.



John Patrick, former Army Chaplain, was installed as the pastor of Kittanning, PA Grace Brethren Church on Sunday, January 21, 1996. He also received Legion of Merit award from the army, presented by Pastor Jerry Young of Lititz GBC, a colonel in the reserves, at 3 p.m. There was an installation service with Charles Ashman speaking.

John Schumacher, Endorsing Agent, has just informed us via FAX that Chaplain Commander John Diaz, U.S. Navy, a divisional Chaplain stationed at Camp Lejuene, NC has received

orders for a six-month deployment with a Marine combat unit that will be positioned, on ship, off the coast of Bosnia. Commander Diaz departed January 26 and appreciates prayer for the opportunities for ministry during his deployment and for his wife, Brenda, during his absence from home.

Mark the date on your calendar for **National Conference**, July 27-August 1, 1996, in Toronto, Canada.

COMPUSERVE number for Brethren Missionary Herald is 103617,1777.



(Social Concerns . . . cont. from page 7)

every heart. While God has determined the contours of each nation, all people everywhere are God's offspring and share a common dignity in Him.

Fourth, there is one summons, to take the one Gospel to every people. The Day of Pentecost is the *terminus ad quem* for all nationalist or racial or social status bubbles, for God pours out his Spirit on all flesh, and the wonderful works of God are

proclaimed in every tongue so that people might call on the name of the Lord and be saved.

Fifth, there is one destiny, when multitudes from every nation, tribe, people and tongue will stand before the throne and cry, "Salvation to our God."

From this divine vision of a universal God who has a universal compassion and call, the message of the Gospel goes forth to minister in all its many issues and dimensions,

including its great message of social justice and concern.

The question which remains is, will it go forth through us or without us or even in spite of us? Allow me to paraphrase a word from the Book of Esther, for perhaps God will speak to us in Mordecai's plea to Esther, "If you remain silent at this time, relief and deliverance will arise from some other place. And who knows whether God has not raised you up for such an hour as this?" ■

(Bible Prophecy . . . cont. from page 8)

exactly right is one chance in 10 billion. He figured the Genesis account had a one chance in 6 trillion.

He calculated that the probability that thirteen selected predictions out of 3500 he found in the Bible, would come true by chance, was one in 10 with 138 zeros.

The probability for the Law of Thermodynamics is one in 10 with 80 zeros. The probability that the Law of Gravity won't work is

one in 10 with 200 zeros. Conclusion: The Bible can be proven mathematically to be more reliable than the Law of Gravity. And yes, Dr. Ross is now a very committed, witnessing Christian.

The greatest prophecy for us now is contained in four little words. Jesus said, "I will come again." It couldn't be plainer. The disciples asked when it would happen and Jesus gave them more than a dozen specific signs of His return. All of these are now exploding in their fulfillment.

The sad thing is that most people know nothing about it. Even people who call themselves Christians are in for the shock of their lives. They are not ready. Many seminary professors are not teaching their divinity students about it and many preachers are not telling their people.

When Jesus came the first time, the religious leaders were caught by surprise in spite of the fact that they had hundreds of prophecies. Now it's going to happen again. ■

(Sister Churches . . . cont. from page 5)

hospitality courtesy of the Susquehanna GBC. In the meantime (July 1994), the two pastors met to plan how the sister congregations could further capitalize on their proximity and common desire to magnify our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

Each church has found a particular niche in presenting the message of Christmas uniquely and effectively (Susquehanna via a still-life, outdoor portrayal of "The Road to Bethlehem;" York via a musical/drama approach). By combining efforts in prayer and dedicating local church meeting times to be free to participate in the program of the other, the churches and people had some

most precious opportunities to work together. Each church, as it were, functioned in a support role to the other, as they ministered the good news of Christmas to their primary ministry area. Positive feedback from the participants yielded a fresh appreciation for the people, and a unique method of outreach of the other church. To top it off, the churches were able to worship the Lord together in a combined threefold communion service shortly after the arrival of the new year (January 8, 1995).

The arrival of Pastor George Traub at the Hope GBC, Dillsburg, PA, in northern York County, has added a new member to the "planning triumvirate." Our association has only been met with his/their affirma-

tion as the Hope GBC participated in our spring fellowship picnic in May 1995. New plans for 1996 call for a three church/threefold communion in January at the York GBC, a pulpit exchange Sunday, April 21, 1996 (with the three pastors scheduled in one of the other churches for the morning service), a spring fellowship picnic hosted by Hope GBC, and a similar fall all-church picnic to be hosted in September by the Susquehanna GBC. Who knows what they will do next!

Was it a good experience and worthwhile? A resounding "yes!" Certainly these cooperative events and outreaches are worthy of exploring for the future. "Try it, you'll like it!" ■

PARADISE REMEMBERED

by Larry Traxel

A cooling breeze came in off of the lake just as I finished the shear climb up the washed-out side of the hill. Jutting tree roots and large, buried rocks had been my hand holds up the steep, bare cliff to the grassy top. I clamored from sunlight to shade as I crested the hill, stopping under the towering canopy of hardwood trees to drink from my plastic canteen. My trusty, rubber Bowie-knife hung ready at my side, and a toy Winchester rifle was slung over my shoulder. From the summit, I could now look down on a village of log buildings, beyond which lay my ultimate goal: the huge fort, with its blockhouses that guarded the steam train and the Indian tepees!

If you were that ten-year-old boy, this might have seemed as much like heaven to you as it did to me then. But no, those picketed gates didn't open into glory. It was a theme park near Angola, Indiana, called "Buck Lake Ranch."

Every summer, from Memorial Day to Labor Day, my weekends were often spent wandering the hills and hiding places of that young boy's paradise. Saturdays were especially fun, because there was usually no one else around except my grandparents. It was they, along with my father and the owners (Harry and Elenor Smythe), who began the park. My grandparents ran the Sno-Cone and Cotton Candy stand that stood close to the stage, at the base of the hill. Sundays were quite hectic sometimes, and I can remember days when I would stand at the counter and sell Sno- Cones for three and four hours straight without stopping. But it wasn't

really work; I got to see the shows for free, and on top of that usually made from five to seven dollars for the weekend as a "thanks for helping" from Grandma.

But in the late sixties, the park was sold, and my grandparents sold out their business. The precious memories of my adventures there were priceless, and I have kept them to this day.

So I was overwhelmed with nostalgia one year ago when, while on my way to a BCS basketball game near Angola, I recognized the road that turned off to Buck Lake! I drove on down to the school where the team was to play, but I couldn't stay. Being that close, I just had to see my childhood paradise again. But as I drove that familiar country road, I wondered, "Would the place look the same? Do I even want to see it from an adult's point of view? Will seeing it after thirty years of change spoil my enchantment with that grand amusement?"

I was glad that Ronda was with me. Not only could I maybe glean one more memory from the park to share with her, but if things weren't still as I remembered them, I could look at her and think, "Yeah, but look what great blessings God has given me instead!" We slowly rolled through the main entrance. The pine trees that lined both sides of the road had grown, but I could see between the trees that the rustic old fort was gone. Clearing the tree-lined road, I pulled on to the beginning of the brick street that sloped gently down to the beach. Some of the

old log buildings were still standing, but there was no sign of the rides that used to glorify the shore and throw colorful electric reflections off of the lake.

The wind blew, rustling a lot of the same old trees again, but this time the feeling was eerie rather than exciting. We walked down the brick street past the stage, its rafters echoing the haunting voices of the many performers who had gotten their start there: some long since passed away.

I smiled to see the old Sno-Cone stand still minding its place near the stage. Peering inside through a crack, I could see the door to the old ice room. The many layers of white enamel paint on the counters were stained and bordered with mildew. A large hole in the ceiling told of how a dead tree limb had come through the roof. Nothing was in the little building anymore to tell passersby what a joyful place this used to be. I felt no more of the sense of adventure, of carefree summers, or of hope for prosperity.

Another car pulled in, and the driver asked if there was going to be an auction that night. "That's all that goes on here anymore," he said.

How could it be? How could this marvelous place that so stirred my imagination and shaped my very life be left to fall apart? This was once a wise man's dream, and now it has rotted into an embarrassing epitaph.

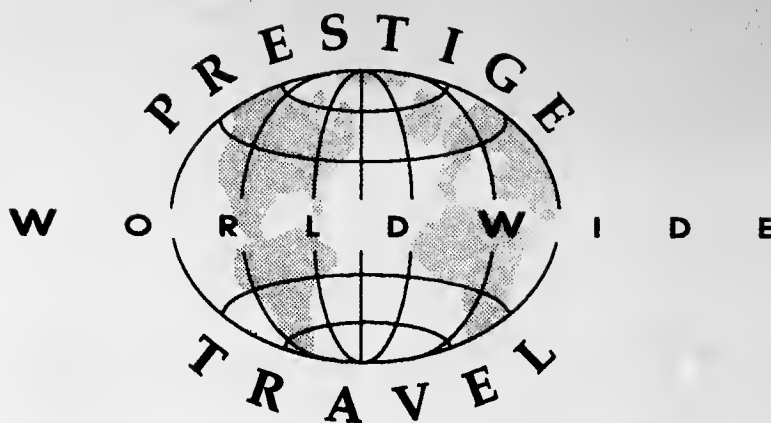
Where is everybody? Doesn't anyone care? Where is the caretaker of paradise, and how can he have the gall to permit such a wellspring of joy turn bitter?

And so it was also, and many, many times more, that went through the heart of Christ as he visited Eden after Adam and Eve's fall and said, "Where are you?"



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"You, O Lord, keep my lamp burning"



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**PRAYER: The
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Dependently**

**Church
Planters *at*
BOOTCAMP**

**“LORD, USE ME . . .
BUT NOT TOO
CLOSE TO HOME!”**

**Scripture Memory
Made *Fun & Easy***

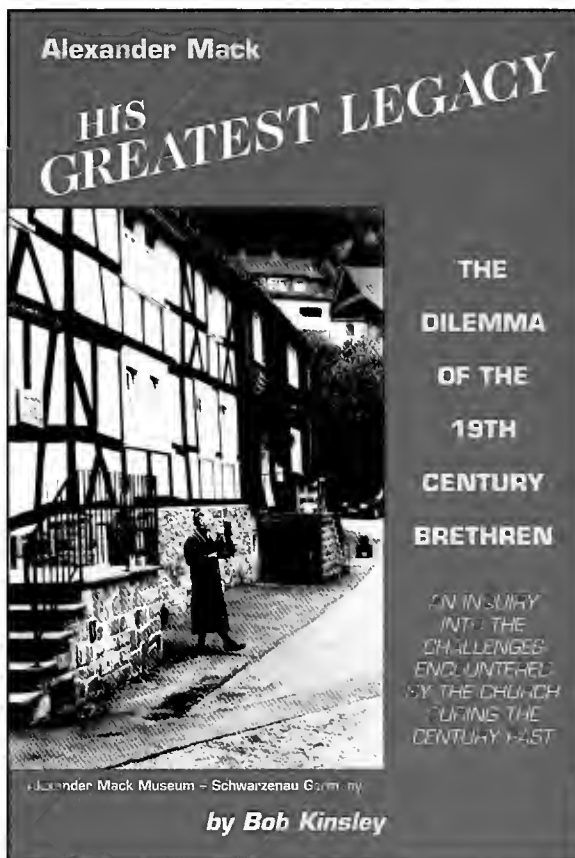
**Steve Peters
1996 Moderator of GBC**

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STEVE PETERS
1996 Moderator of GBC





The author believes the lessons of the past have lost their relevancy to the present day church status and attitudes. He senses the need for another serious look at the weaknesses of yesteryear—as individuals and as a collective community. *His Greatest Legacy* sells for \$13.99 at the Herald Bookstores. Ask the Herald Bookstore for more information at 1-800-348-2756 or (219) 267-7158 or FAX (219) 267-4745.

Kinsley is the author of *Our Common Heritage*. In this book, he depicts a German born Patriarch and the family's country.

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CHANGE IS NOT EASY



Jeff Carroll

The Brethren Missionary Herald has been coming into our homes for over 57 years. It has literally heralded the good things God has accomplished in and through our Brethren churches worldwide. The BMH Board has tried to build our magazine as a basic organ of communication with our fellowship.

But communication has changed over the years, and it is now changing even more rapidly. Many churches have cellular telephones, photocopiers, fax machines and personal computers with modems for e-mail. BMH took the lead in adjusting to the rapid pace by offering a free 800 newsline for several years. That service is still available on the Herald Newsline by calling 219-267-7826.

We also are sending, by e-mail, weekly BMH news each Tuesday to everyone who has an e-mail address listed with us. Those who have not sent their e-mail address are urged to do so. 122 persons and churches are currently receiving this news.

Originally, the Herald magazine was the chief communication of our national Boards to our Brethren people. This, also, has changed. We support all of our boards and pray for their ministries to prosper, but each board has found it more effective to

communicate with its constituents through its own publications. All of these changes necessitate a reevaluation of the purpose of the magazine.

In 1980 the circulation of the Herald reached an all time high of 11,000. In 1995 we sold 1,100 annual subscriptions to the Herald for \$13.50 each. The actual cost of producing, printing and distributing the Herald was \$65.00 each. You can see that adding subscribers only intensifies our problem of losing \$51.50 on each one, or about \$56,650 a year. This has been the pattern for several years. Consequently, after much deliberation and prayer, the board has sadly decided to cease publication of the Herald magazine. The final issue will be May-June, 1996.

We have, however, a new publication that is already meeting needs in harmony with our purpose. *The Leader's Edge* is being sent each month to 1,800 persons: all Herald subscribers, pastors, missionaries, teachers and other Grace Brethren leaders who give us their addresses. Beginning with the May issue, *The Leader's Edge* will include two pages of current Grace family news.

We ask our present Herald subscribers to allow us to reassign their remaining subscription fees to the cost of *The Leader's Edge*. To those who request it, we will be happy to mail a cash refund.

This announcement is made with a sense of sadness at losing an old friend, but with much hope for the future of our fellowship. Change doesn't always produce growth, but growth always produces change. We expect that our church, and our world, will continue to change rapidly as we approach the time of our Lord's return. Please pray with us that our efforts to encourage our leaders and cast vision for our churches will stimulate growth in our personal lives and in our fellowship. •

BRETHREN MISSIONARY HERALD

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The Herald Magazine offers space for promotional material to the boards, churches, and members of the NFGBC. This includes publicizing special events, seminars, programs, or advertising for an organization. Items that are news oriented will be printed at no charge. As of April 1992, all purchased space will specify who paid for it.

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Cover Photo: Steve Peters
 is the 1996 Moderator of
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 Brethren Churches. He is
 featured on pages 9 & 10.

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PRAYER: The Strength to Live Dependently

by Wayne Hannah

What is left to be said about prayer? We know essentially what prayer is. We know why we should pray. We know to Whom we should pray. We know where we can pray. We know how to pray. We know lots of Scripture about prayer, even quote them from Scripture. Many hours we have logged sitting through seminars and sermons. And beyond these things, we think we know what the best prayers are, who prays most eloquently, most sincerely, most profoundly, most dramatically, with the deepest voice, tears, and even clichés.

It is amazing how very much we *know* about prayer, yet how very little we *actually* pray. A recent survey indicated that Christians pray only an average of two minutes a day. Most people responded that they thought about praying nearly every day. Most expressed a deep desire to have a consistent daily prayer life. Perhaps most stunning was the fact that apart from public praying in ministerial duties, the American pastor averages only seven minutes of prayer a day.

Naturally, the question anyone would ask would be, "Why?" Why such prayerlessness? And, it's the right kind of question. Ask a lot of people and one would get a lot of different answers. Ask the Lord and maybe He would give but one. What would it be? Let's check it out.

Lots of passages of Scriptures speak of prayer: what to pray for, how to pray, when to pray. Many passages speak about what happens

when we don't pray. A number of passages indict us for prayerlessness. But few, if any, directly answer and explain why we don't pray.

Maybe it's obvious through the collection of the hundreds of passages of Scripture that address the matter of prayer. Every passage of Scripture that describes prayer ultimately teaches one basic principle: dependency!

Dependency may be called different things and appear in different forms: trust, faith, need,

ordeal, highlighted his dependency on God above friends, family, and his own wealth and reputation. Even his strongest emotional queries toward God, about the fairness of his suffering, betray a dependence on God to be able to answer.

Prayers of praise and worship have meaning because the presupposition behind them is an awareness of the absolute and total dependency on God. Isaiah's confrontation with the Exalted One threatened his very existence. He felt, in an instant, his total dependency on the One before him for his very life and forgiveness.

Other examples are given to us from the Bible. Mary's "magnificat" demonstrated dependency for a miraculous birth. Peter's prayer in prison showed a dependency for release. While in shackles, Paul and Silas' praise and song revealed a dependency for their very lives.

To whom did Stephen commend his spirit in his instant final prayer? Of course, to the One upon whom he knew he was ultimately and eternally dependent.

Perhaps the most strikingly dependent praying was done by God to God. Such is the miracle of mutual dependency expressed to a degree beyond comprehension in the Trinity. Jesus postured Himself in a dependent relationship upon the Father. It was not His own will, but the Father's that was the driving force in His earthly walk. His prayers were the highest expressions of dependency expressed in all of the Bible. John 17's passionate appeal was an

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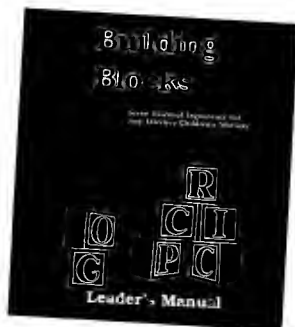
despair, relationship, fear, awe, worship, praise, thankfulness, and many more. These and all other descriptions flow ultimately from dependency.

When Hannah prayed for a son, she expressed total dependency. When Elisha prayed for the movements of the weather to cease, he was dependent upon God to do it. David's prayers for victory over Israel's enemies was realized by his total dependency on God for victory. His psalms of praise deeply express a total reliance on God for forgiveness, power, and spiritual experience. Job's ultimate realization, through his

(Prayer cont. on page 6)

THREE NEW RESOURCES from CE National—Written Specifically By and for Grace Brethren People

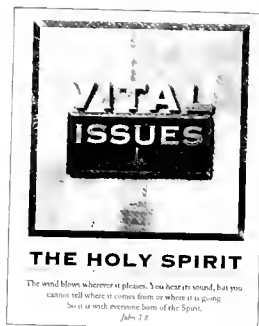
Building Blocks Leader's Manual is an invaluable tool for training your children's ministry staff in the seven essential ingredients for any effective children's ministry. The Leader's Manual comes complete with overhead masters, evaluation forms, training materials, and the Building Blocks book. **Cost: \$24.99.**



911... Emergency Response for a Hurting World: Leader's Guide is designed to help a leader train young people in outreach skills and help them develop confidence in using these skills. Each chapter of the leader's guide includes a section on discussion, application, method of evangelism, and project. Use **911... Emergency Response for a Hurting World: Practical Handbook for Youth Outreach** as the youth's handbook. **Cost: \$3.49** (youth handbooks sold separately, **Cost: \$6.49**).



Vital Issues is a video curriculum series on the topic of the Holy Spirit. Each of the six lessons has a complete leader's guide, Scripture memory verse, and video introduction featuring what Grace Brethren people believe about topics such as spiritual gifts, speaking in tongues, and filling of the Holy Spirit. **Cost for entire series: \$49.99.**



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awesome unveiling of a dependency that surpasses the human mind's ability to fathom. "Now they have come to know that everything thou hast given Me is from Thee; for the words which Thou gavest Me I have given to them, and they received them and truly understood that I came forth from Thee, and they believed that Thou didst send Me. And that they may all be one; even as Thou, Father, art in Me, and I in Thee, that they also may be in Us; that the world may believe that Thou didst send Me." (Jn. 17:7-8, 21)

So, what does that mean to us? Well, if indeed dependency is at the core of all true prayer, then it helps to answer the question we asked earlier, "Why don't we pray more?" The answer then might have a lot to do with dependency, or rather, the lack of it.

We are an independent people in a self-sufficient culture. The American perspective has been conditioned more by expectation than need. We are more motivated to seek the fulfillment of personal rights and expectations (what we think we deserve) than we are motivated by need. We don't "need" food. We "deserve" food, and not just food, but more food than we need.

Couple with those expectations the advanced ability we have developed to supply all of our own needs and desires, and we find a whole culture of people who have lost their impulse of neediness and dependency. This is devastating to the practice of prayer. Nothing neutralizes the imperative dynamic of sincere prayer as much as independent self-sufficiency.

It is fairly obvious that to the extent one senses a dependency on God, to that extent one will develop a significant prayer life. What one of us hasn't gone through those times of tragedy and difficulty and been forced to increase the intensity of our prayer? For most, it is not an increase in praying, it is a restarting. Who hasn't proclaimed, following a particularly taxing and stressful time in our life, "I never prayed more in my life!"

(Continued on page 15)

SCRIPTURE MEMORY MADE *fun* &

by Linda Kline

The Word of God is living and powerful, and sharper than any two-edged sword. God has promised that His Word, not ours, will not return empty, but will accomplish His purpose. It is important that we teach our children to memorize Bible verses and passages to prepare them for living the Christian life. We are commanded to teach the Word to our children at all times (sitting, lying, walking, and standing). We are fortunate to have access to Scripture, but it is not always possible to stop and look up the verse needed for a particular situation. Through Scripture memorization it is always readily available. Psalm 119:11 says, "I have hidden your word in my heart that I might not sin against you." The Word of God will keep us from sin or else sin will keep us from the Word.

It is important that children be encouraged to memorize Scripture because their minds are very quick to learn and retain what has been learned. The verses I remember best are the ones that I memorized in elementary school. I think Satan has used the variety of translations of Scripture to cause many people not to memorize at all, especially adults. The verses they learned as children were in the King James Version. Now they question whether to continue in King James or change versions. This often results in nothing being memorized.

Bible memory with children should be approached with excitement (enthusiastically), example (know the verse well yourself), and expectation (encourage participation). The verse can be introduced with a question, picture, or object lesson. It must be established as

God's Word and should be read directly from the Bible. Don't forget to emphasize the reference as part of the memory work. It is good to have it at the beginning and at the end. I describe it like an oreo: cookie on both sides and the good stuff in the middle. The meaning of the entire verse should be explained as well as individual words. You can determine if they understand if they can verbalize it back to you.

Once the preliminary things given above have been done, you are ready to help them memorize the verse. The secret to memorization is repetition and more repetition and once it is learned, then review and more review. Repeat the verse many times in many different ways. Make it fun and they will learn in the process. Begin by having the verse and reference on a paper big enough for all to see.

- 1. *Read through the verse a couple times and then try covering up different parts of it as you continue to repeat it. Start covering up small portions and increase it until all is covered. If the verse is written on a chalkboard, words can be erased in random order as it is repeated and learned.*

- 2. *Put the words of the verse to music. Several Scripture music tapes are available at Christian bookstores.*

- 3. *Develop hand motions to represent what is being said in the verse. The children like to help in choosing motions each time you say the verse. This method keeps their hands busy and aids in remembering the words by associating it with the motion. This method helps them better understand the meaning of the verse.*

- 4. *You can learn the verse by adding a word each time you say it. Start with the first word, then first*

two words, then first three words, etc., until the whole verse is said.

- 5. *If the words of the verse are on several strips of paper, they can be put in the proper order to help them learn it. This can be done as competition by timing the process of two teams, with their own set of strips, working at the same time.*

- 6. *Have different groups of people stand up and say the verse (such as those with "red" on their clothing or those who like a certain ball team).*

- 7. *Divide the group into two teams and have them alternate saying words of the verse. (Have the team stand when they say their words.) Go through the verse twice switching who starts the verse the second time. I call this "popcorn" because they are going up and down.*

- 8. *Have teams, and rate who does the best job at saying the verse and making it sound like one voice.*

- 9. *Hot potato game could be used to review verses. Pass around a container with a couple pieces of candy in it. Each child must say the next word of the verse quickly (why it is called "hot" potato) or he/she is eliminated. The child who is the last one standing gets the candy.*

After the verse is learned, it should be applied to the child's life. What fact is to be remembered? What promise can be claimed? What command is to be followed? Use the verse in different settings to emphasize its practicality.

Review the verse the next week and throughout the year. Ask who can say it, who knows the meaning, and who obeyed what it said.

Special rewards for memory work can be given occasionally. Praise, stickers, stars, and smiley faces are good rewards. •

Crustian GROUP SURVIVAL

by Terry Daniels

Joe was a Crustian. He had made the decision early in life to commit himself to the Crustian way. His parents had been Crustians before him, but he freely chose to join the Crustian cause. He had no questions about what it meant to be a Crustian or doubts about the superiority of the Crustian way of life.

Joe publicly identified as a Crustian. Anyone who knew him, had to know that he was a Crustian. He regularly wore Crustian symbols as jewelry. Joe even had a prominent Crustian logo on his car. At work, he had an especially interesting Crustian saying framed on his office wall.

Now, it is the practice of Crustians to gather together in assemblies every seventh day. At the appointed time, they meet to remind themselves of what it means to be a Crustian and to help one another grow in their practice of the Crustian life. At their meetings, they retell the stories that shape their movement. Season by season they review the foundational lessons of the Crustian way. They also take collections at their meetings to support their cause. Some of the meetings are energetic and exciting. Some of them are quiet and even a bit boring. Yet, attendance at these regular assemblies is an established part of Crustian life.

Joe was a member of a Crustian assembly. He had joined his family's meeting when he first identified himself as a Crustian. Later, he moved his membership to an assembly on the other side of town. He wanted a little independence from the place where he grew up, and where his parents still belonged.

It was important to Joe that he belong to a solid Crustian assembly. He liked knowing that it offered sound Crustian teaching. People needed to be able to learn true Crustianism. A good assembly was also a place to turn to in times of need. Crustians have a reputation for looking out for each other. Being part of the group was a great benefit.

However, Joe did not attend the meetings. He was certain that he already was a Crustian. He had learned the stories in his childhood and had heard most of the lessons many times. Usually he had a good idea of what the speaker was going to say as soon as the topic was announced. Joe's weeks filled up so quickly that it was hard to give one day out of seven to a particular cause. The meetings did not last all day, but they did put a real cramp in scheduling flexibility.

Joe had so many demands on his money that he never gave any financial support to the assembly. He knew that a good Crustian contributed to support the cause, but his money always seemed to be taken by other needs. He intended to start giving some day when his personal overhead was not so great.

One day, Joe decided that he should drop in at the weekly meeting and see how things were going at his Crustian assembly. He imagined the surprise his presence would cause in some of the people gathered there. He anticipated some gentle chiding from the Crustian leader, but knew that there would also be genuine appreciation that he was present.

But Joe had a big surprise. When he drove up to the building where the Crustians met, he found it closed. In fact, it looked like it had been closed for some time. This fact hit Joe hard. His assembly had failed him. His mind filled with questions. "Where were they meeting?" "Was anyone even meeting?" "What had happened to the committed Crustians?" "Why had they given up this meeting?" "Didn't anybody care?" "Where was he going to go when he needed help?" "How could something like this happen?"

To any of us, it is very clear how it happened. The assembly had too many Joes in it. Each Joe assumed that the responsibility for the group rested on the shoulders of others. He forgot that no group can survive on the good intentions of inactive members. Any cause can thrive only as long as each Joe does what he knows needs to be done. Joe had foolishly cut his own lifeline. •



ONE on ONE with **THE PEOPLE WE MEET**



Steve Peters

1996 Moderator of GBC

Q: Steve Peters is Senior Pastor of Community Grace Brethren Church in West Milton. He is the 1996 moderator of our fellowship. Steve, how long have you been at your church?

A: I've been their 11 years. I went there in December of 1984.

Q: What has happened in your ministry there?

A: Ron Picard was there before me. He had a feel for evangelism. God really used him to build incredible leadership and to win people to Christ in that area. I came to the church when they were without a Pastor for about 20-22 months. It was a church that was running about 250-260. We've doubled the attendance there, and built a 3000 square foot education wing. In March, we will be finishing another 14,000 square foot auditorium and foyer that will seat 900. We've seen a lot of ministries take

off there. We are really jumping into the focus 2000 church big time.

Q: What's your biggest church challenge right now?

A: The biggest church challenge is getting an associate. Scott Distler (former associate), who went to Osceola, and I were together for ten years. We had a phenomenal ministry together and he always had a heart to become a Senior Pastor—we knew that it was coming. I'm tickled that he's part of the fellowship and I'm really praying that the church will "knock the socks" off all of us.

We have a Youth Pastor, so we are looking for an associate right now. We have a couple of families that we're considering.

Q: You're also serving as moderator this year. How are you doing?

A: Things are going well. Our theme is, "Personal Responsibility Equals World Impact." The whole thing revolves around the fact that

God wants to use us right now. If it's a small church or a large church, someone that's involved or not involved at all in their church, I hope that they can walk away from this conference, in Toronto, knowing that God wants to use them right now.

Q: You spent time, in the fellowship, in different churches this year, what would you like to see happen as moderator? What direction could you give the fellowship in its effort to carry out the great commission?

A: I get thrilled to see our people get involved in things they never dreamed possible. It would be my heart's desire for our conference to catch hold of God's place for every person, that knows Him as Saviour, to make a world impact.

Q: What is the biggest problem confronting our fellowship today? What is holding us back?

(Continued on page 10)

A: We are not free.

Q: What do you mean by that?

A: We're not free to serve. We have too many barriers in the way. We have to cross too many bridges. We have to go through too many hoops. We have all these hoops we set up, and we're missing out on incredible opportunities of ministry.

Jesus sent out guys two by two—they didn't know hardly anything. Even when they got back, they didn't know a whole lot about what was going on. He wasn't afraid to send them. We need to be free. It doesn't mean that we ignore truth—I don't mean that. We've got to have truth, that's going to set us free.

I had a guy that was only six months in Christ. He's a great big truck driver, and I travelled with him. He came to me crying. He wanted to learn how to lead people to Christ. I told him before this year is out, he would learn how to lead people to Christ. I watched that guy sit in a truck stop, reach over a table, grab another truck driver's hand, and pray with him to receive Christ. That guy, without any major formal training, (he took a two-year, nonaccredited Bible Institute course at Liberty) is a missionary in Alaska today.

Q: What do you hope to accomplish in Toronto?

A: We want to commission Pastors to start a fellowship. We hope to have a tighter alliance between national delegates so that we have more of a team effort in reaching our world for Christ. Again, we want people to know that God wants to use them and to have a world impact! •

The IV Latin GBC Congress

by Phil Guereña

*"Lord, please send laborers into
Australia and its surrounding areas."*

This was one of the prayers being offered for the five continents of our world. It was during the "Banquet of Nations," featuring the countries of Cuba, Guatemala, Mexico, and the United States. The menu even consisted of foods from these four countries.

Why just these particular countries? These are the places where Hispanic Grace Brethren Churches are located who form part of the international team, "Quipo International."

Over five years ago, Terry Hofecker and Martin Guereña spent about one year brainstorming how to unite the pastors and churches (Hispanic-GBIM) in planting more works with a united effort. Last September 14–17, in Tecate, Baja California, Mexico was the fourth annual gathering of most of those involved.

Seventy-five pastors and leaders came to Tecate to share and to expand their vision in fulfilling the great commission. The food was plentiful and excellent. Of course, the fellowship and small prayer cells were stimulating. But the seminars were only part of the joy of being present. Various topics pertinent to Latin American leaders were expounded. Sharpening leadership skills, discipling more effectively, and strengthening small groups were some of those shared.

Since the last meeting one year ago, three new churches have been started, and now, Cuba and the city of Guadalajara in Jalisco, Mexico are preparing to plant Grace Brethren Churches no later than early 1996, Lord willing. The two border Mexican pastors who went as missionaries to Cuba were present with their ever joyful abundant experience.

The conference as a whole presented many, many leaders, some leading worship, praying, emceeing, teaching, receiving, cleaning, mopping, eating, playing, or fellowshiping. It was without a doubt, a mountain-top ride in the lives of all who attended.

A spirit of togetherness, care and cooperation clearly prevailed. This was exemplified by the director, leaders, missionaries, pastors, great speakers, and everyone present. The highlight of this conference was just being present, and experiencing the harmonious Christian spirit. The excitement communicated afterwards by those who attended was evident. Some said, "I want to get more involved. What can I do?" Also overheard, were some saying, "I want to take a group next year," and "I liked the enthusiasm of everyone being part of this congress."

Most of the Mexican GBIM missionaries were present, as well as Terry Hofecker and Will Marling. It is our desire that more U.S. Hispanic churches would come next year.

Concluding the four days of a spiritual high, focusing on the great commission, the good-bye was, "See you next year, Lord willing!" Warm hugs (abrazos) in typical Latin greetings and good-byes were freely exchanged. Going home, the message was, "This is our vision, this our work, this is our team." See you this year in Cuernavaca, Mexico, October 31–November 3, 1996. •

BARB WOOLER

Missionary to the Pygmies

by Miriam Pacheco

How did a gal from Philly land in the Central African rain forest? It was a long trip, with God's unseen direction over the years. Here's how Barb describes it.

"I accepted Christ when I was very young and was baptized when I was five years old. My family, all of whom are Christians, attended a Plymouth Brethren assembly during my childhood years. Then, after a move north of Philadelphia when I was 12, we attended Penn Valley Grace Brethren Church. (That is still my home church.) I have three older brothers who each have a neat Christian family. My oldest brother

before my senior year, the Lord revealed Himself to me in a very personal way. This was like a new beginning in my walk with the Lord.

"During my years at Grace College (I graduated in 1982), I was awakened to a sense of awe, wonder, and appreciation for God's power and majesty as it's revealed through His creation.

"All of these factors together, plus the faithful prayers of my parents, have shaped my life and influenced my choices to follow the Lord. I went to the Central African Republic in 1985 because of the need, and because of God's clear direction that my participation in the Great Commission should be as a career missionary.

"As for my goals in life, I want to be used of God to strengthen others in their love for Him and in their knowledge of the Word. I want to take as many people with me to heaven as possible, and help them cultivate the kind of life which will result in their receiving much heavenly reward. In my personal life, my desire is to become a godly person and to finish the course the Lord has laid before me. While I very much enjoy this life, I look forward to crossing the finish line and getting on with the next "phase" of my existence.



Barb and Jim Hocking serve as advisors to this team of men who are instructors in the training of literacy teachers.



Barb teaches a daily community Bible class in Sango and Andre translates into the language of his people in the forest.

is a missionary in Ecuador working in a printing ministry.

"Christian high school had a definite positive impact, and just

"I enjoy biking, music, walking, writing, and reading. I love to be outdoors. I love the four seasons, mountains, and fishing—if I don't have to put the worms on the hook or take the fish off. I love the beach, the ocean, sunsets and sunrises, and trips in the car. I would like to hike the Grand Canyon some day, and to go coral reef snorkeling.

"In the Central African Republic, I devote half my time to Pygmy work, and the other half to literacy work around the country, especially in the capital city of Bangui. In both ministries, my goal is to train Central Africans to do for their own people what I am doing. In both of these works, I have found people extremely eager to learn. For a teacher, it is a high pleasure to have eager and motivated students.

(Continued on page 13)

CHURCH PLANTERS AT "BOOTCAMP"

..... by Larry N. Chamberlain

The Antler's Doubletree Hotel in downtown Colorado Springs was the setting for church planters and their spouses to gather for intensive training in how to start churches. Church and denominational leaders came, as well, to be trained in how to coach church planters.



Tim and Alene Enderle, with "coach" Bill Snell, listen to Neil Cole during a workshop session.

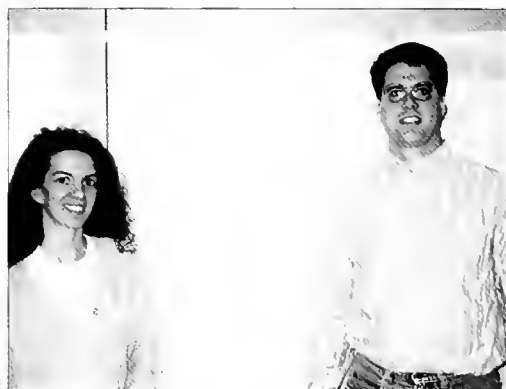
Men and women from 21 states representing 14 different denominations were challenged to identify and articulate their vision, core values and mission. In the BootCamp, 29 church plants were represented and 25 were trained to coach church planters.

The workshop format was not for spectators, but provided oppor-

tunity to put action plans in place to be carried out when they return to their target communities. After each presentation, as the workshop assignments were carried out, individualized coaching was an important aspect of the entire experience.

Grace Brethren Home Missions sponsored four couples who are planting new churches: Randall and Ann Arthur from Gainesville, Florida; Tim and Alene Enderle from Zanesville, Ohio; Mike and Teresa Sinteff from Atlanta, Georgia; and Lynn and Sally Yates from Jacksonville, Florida. They were accompanied by "coaches" Bill Snell and Neil Cole. David and Denice Sincock, exploring the opportunity of planting a new church, also attended from Southern California.

While the daytime schedule dealt with what to do and how to do it, the evenings were devoted to praise and worship and the personal spiritual development of the participants. Times of challenge, sharing and praying were significant aspects of each evening.



Randall and Ann Arthur display their "strategic plan" for reaching Gainesville for Christ.

Since its first BootCamp in October 1992, the Church Multiplication Training Center has trained church planters for some 270 church plants. Over 50 different denominations have participated



"We were able to develop a wonderful trusting relationship with one another. After going through BootCamp together, we now have a long-lasting relationship based on a wonderful common experience."

—Randall Arthur



Lynn and Sally Yates: "You want us to plant a church?"

with people coming from every part of the United States and Canada as well as some ministering in Mexico, France, Sweden and Zimbabwe. The BootCamp staff come from several denominations and have planted or overseen the planting of several hundred churches. Experience and expertise abound.

The practical training combines with networking and excellent fellowship in a supportive environment to better prepare couples for the rigors of the task ahead.

Here's what our Grace Brethren church-planting couples said after their week's training:

"Experienced church planters and church planter coaches surrounded my

wife and I with encouragement and deep insight. [We are] better prepared, better organized, and more confident because of this experience."

—Tim and Alene

"I cannot express the importance of having Teresa here to share in the visionizing and processes. I believe . . . we have become a unified team with a

united purpose, vision, and passion for the work Christ Jesus has called us to."

—Mike and Teresa

"Of very high value from this training was the bonding together of other church planters in our Fellowship. We really grew to love each other and have a common vision larger than ourselves. The biggest value has been to draw Sally and me closer in common purpose and unity—a real team."

—Lynn and Sally

"We were thoroughly encouraged by meeting other people who are like us.

Other people who are willing to take risks. Other people who have a great passion for the lost. Other people who have a similar temperament and personality make-up. It is evident that Home Missions is committed to the Lord and the task of reaching the lost through supporting, helping, encouraging, praying, sacrificing, caring and loving Church Planters."

—Randall and Ann

Spiritual warfare is never so fierce and intense as it is in the effort



"The time spent planning has been helpful. Teresa and I have been able to put a 'stake in the ground' in many areas of our ministry."

—Mike Sinteff

to plant a new church. Remember these church-planting couples in your prayers as they go from "bootcamp" to the "front lines" of the battle! •

(Barb Wooler continued from page 11)

"Grace Brethren International Missions has recently assigned me to the "Rapid Deployment Force," so I will be traveling to various mission fields to work on specific projects as needed. Along with my work in CAR, this last year I was also in Cambodia to meet believers who are asking for GBIM involvement, and to evaluate a strategy for

planting churches there. I'm excited with anticipation of what the Lord has in His plans for my future.

"The Lord is my Shepherd, I shall not want," is special to me. It is so freeing to know that God is able, and He intends to take care of me. He is fully trustworthy as a partner, always equipping me with all I need." •

Barb Wooler is the fourth and last of the WMC Missionaries of the Year. You may obtain either a slide/tape or a video to introduce all these women to your WMC. Order from Grace Brethren International Missions, P.O. Box 588, Winona Lake, IN 46590. Please give the desired date, indicate your media choice (video or slide/tape), and include a love gift to cover expenses.

A Non-Eulogy for MISS RUTH SNYDER

by Marvin Goodman

You say you want me to give a eulogy? A eulogy for Ruth? Well, which Ruth are we talking about? There are a lot of Ruths around here in Winona Lake, so you will have to be more specific. And if it's the Ruth I am thinking about, she definitely would want us to be specific. Oh, you say it's a eulogy for Ruth Snyder? Hm. With all the Ruth Snyders around here, we still have to be more specific, don't we Ruth? A eulogy for Miss Ruth Snyder? Oh, you mean the tall white haired missionary lady? The one that you often see walking around Winona Lake with the short, white haired missionary, also named Ruth?"

Well, the Miss Ruth Snyder we are going to talk about would be terribly embarrassed to think we were going to give a eulogy for her.

"Relax, Ruth, this isn't going to be a eulogy. See the program says 'Personal Comments.' We are just going to give a few facts about your life and the way you lived it. But Ruth, you can't blame us if the facts we give sound sort of like a eulogy, can you?"

Miss Ruth Snyder was born in Conemaugh, Pennsylvania. (We would do well to observe that you could take Ruth out of Pennsylvania, but you couldn't take Pennsylvania out of Ruth. She was one of those loyal Pennsylvanians whose roots always remained there.) She was born there in 1912, and raised there until she went to Ashland College in 1932. During the years she spent at college and a short period as a school teacher, the needs of Africa were weighing on her heart. So she went

to Grace Seminary, graduated with honors in 1940. (She often reminisced about her Seminary days and the friendships formed there.) Within a year of her graduation, in March 1941, she was one of a party of six who set out for Africa on the ill-fated Zam Zam. After some harrowing experiences, she found herself back in the States in June of 1941. I am sure



Miss Ruth Snyder.

that many would accept such a setback as a sign from the Lord to stay in the good old U.S.—but not Ruth. After a time to regroup and re-outfit, she set out again for Africa, arriving in January 1944.

From then on, Africa was her life. Not even cancer and extensive surgery could keep her away from Africa. Even when deteriorating

health obliged her to remain in the United States in 1983, she prayed for Africa, she wrote lessons and literature for Africa. She wrote a book about Estella Myers, a pioneer missionary to Africa, with the hope that others would be moved to serve in Africa.

What kind of a person was Miss Ruth Snyder. Knowing her over a period of 50 years, I have formed some definite opinions, but I wanted to find out what others thought of Ruth. First, I asked some of my children what their thoughts were about "Aunt Ruth." Children have a way of being able to see through a person, and our children spent a number of their years in Africa on the same station with Ruth. Here are the kind of words I hear them say: "sharp," "good mind," "very wise and careful in the way she spoke," "always a twinkle in her bright eyes," "lovely," "peaceful and serene."

Well, I wanted to get some other opinions, and here is what I heard from relatives and others who knew her well: "Not a mean bone in her body." "Loved everybody." "Loved the Word." "A student of the Word." "Had wide interests and was an avid reader." "A good Bible teacher." "Had a deep faith and love for the Lord." "A good sense of humor." "Young at heart and enjoyed being with young people."

"Now, Ruth, don't get upset. We are just stating the facts, remember."

Now it's my turn. How would I characterize Ruth? Don't be shocked, but the first word that comes to my mind is the word "tough." Maybe that is not a good choice of words when talking about a lady, and she

was certainly a lady. But the word "tough" truly described her, in every good sense of the word. We could use other terms: brave, plucky, courageous—and she was all of these. God allowed her to go through many trials in her life—and she stuck it out through each one. Of course we know, and she would want it to be pointed out, that it was her deep faith in her Lord that made it possible.

Shortly after Ruth arrived in Africa, she was appointed to work with the Beavers in establishing the Bible Institute, first at Bellevue, and then at Bata. From that day on, she had to show great fortitude and tact. She was called upon to teach African men. The subjects she taught most were Church History, the Life of Christ, and the Gospel of John. Now, a lot of people, even here in America, would have trouble with the thought of her assuming the role of teaching men. But, think of her assuming that task in Africa, where women were supposed to fulfill only a subordinate role. Somebody had to do the job! Ruth carried out her job with wisdom and in evident subordination to the Biblical teachings and doctrines of her

Seminary professors and of the missionary elders on the field. She won the hearts of the African students, and any time you traveled with her and came across some of her former pupils, their joy at seeing her was self evident. You would hear such words as, "Greetings mama." "How are you, mama?" "We are so glad to see you, mama!" And I know that when the news of her homegoing arrives in Africa, there will be groups of her former students, now pastors of churches, who will get together for several days to pray and reminisce over all the good memories they have of "mama Ruth Snyder." Yes, Miss Ruth Snyder toughed it out in a difficult role and came out a winner.

Her toughness was also apparent in the way she handled herself when the disease of cancer was ravaging her body. She went about her work, disregarding the pain as much as possible. Some of you who have known Ruth, only in the later years of her life, were not fortunate enough to know, to the fullest, the fun loving, light hearted side of her. Oh yes, it would peek out in the latter days as well, but it was somewhat veiled by the vicissitudes of her

health. What was always evident was her determination to keep on and to accomplish all she could for her Lord while time remained.

Another facet of Ruth's character was her prayer life. Right beside her favorite chair were some well worn cards in files. The cards in one file had the names and facts about each missionary. The cards in the other file had the names and pictures of all the students she had taught in Bible Institute. And daily, she would remember these people in prayer. The word "prayer warrior" was certainly exemplified in her life.

Another word that I would use in portraying Ruth is a word she used in her book describing Estella Myers. She said of Estella: "God can work wonders through one unpretentious life." That certainly can be said of Ruth as well as of Estella. It is the word, "unpretentious" that stands out. She didn't "put on airs." She was a remarkable woman, with many great accomplishments, but she didn't let you know about them. You had to learn them for yourself by observation. I count myself fortunate to be one of many who were able to do that. •

(Prayer continued from page 6)

What a shame that we have such difficulty sustaining a similar fervency, in a consistent way, through the majority of our lives that represent bounty and togetherness. But is that impossible? Of course not. In fact, here in lies the secret to a passionate and consistently meaningful prayer life, live a life that keeps us aware of our dependency on the power of the Lord.

It is not only possible. It is a mandate from God. "Seek first the kingdom of God, and all of these things will be added to you." Seek Me, depend on Me, and I will supply your need. Live dependently and prayer becomes a lifeline. Seeking God, imploring

God, praising God, exalting God, relating to God (not as an equal, but as a dependent adopted child) are all are expressions of a life that has found its significance in a growing awareness of reliance upon God for all things.

The surest way to develop a pattern of life that makes dependency the norm, is to continually live beyond the parameters of safety and surety. A life that is given to committing its energy into accomplishing dreams and goals, that go beyond what can be accomplished through one's own energies, leads to a life of dependency and consequently to a life of prayer.

The Fellowship of Grace Brethren Churches has established Focus 2000 Goals that take us

beyond our ability to accomplish. They are bigger than us. They require extraordinary power to realize them. They must drive us to prayer. That is why the appeal for 2000 prayer partners is such an imperative. The need is greater than current supply. The resource we have at our disposal is not sufficient for the demand. But the resources that we have at our disposal through God and through prayer are sufficient for more than we dreamed.

Join together with the many who are committing to living at risk by going beyond the reasonable limits of our comfort, and living dependently upon the power of God when we call upon Him in prayer! •

GRACE BRETHREN NEWS UPDATE

Touching You from Around the World

"Stand Up, Speak Out," was the theme for the first NCO District Winter Mini-Camp for grades 4-6. The Woodsville, Delaware and Lexington GBC's have held camp for about four years, and this year it was opened to the entire district.

125 children and staff converged on the Pleasant Valley Ranch for a 48 hour snow retreat. Chapel services, singing & praising, spiritual growing, praying, tobogganing, tubing, and other events were apart of the profitable retreat.

New Addresses & Phone Numbers:

Kip and Mary Cone
Michaelstr. 220
74523 Schwabisch Hall
GERMANY

Brian and Rhonda Weaver
16 Pembroke Croft
Hall Green
Birmingham, B28 9EY
ENGLAND
Phone: (011-44) 121-745-1936

Steve and Celeste Kern's
Phone Number: (011-49) 7051-59322

Editions Cle Office Phone
(in France): (011-33) 78-85-33-80

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Hazel N. Smith, a member of the Martinsburg GBC since 1946, passed away February 8, 1996. Services were conducted by Pastor James S. Laird, Sr. and Pastor Robert A. Russell.

In Russia, there are new restrictions on visa approval (only

three month visas are now allowed until the elections) and the authorities are limiting the number of missionaries that are allowed at work there in Novosibirsk. This is being done contrary to the Russian Constitution and the Religious Freedom Act of 1989, but the authorities believe it is inevitable that a communist will be elected as president, and foreign missionaries will be expelled from the country. Please pray that Russia will stay open for the Gospel to be freely preached, and the Spirit's direction and power in these uncertain times.

Crosswalk: The new lay-led ministry, known as the Crosswalk, was launched in Indiana at the Fort Wayne GBC, pastored by Bob Arenobine. This ministry focused on lay people from Grace Brethren churches, sharing personal and Christian life testimonies as evidence of God's power in changing lives. The Indiana Crosswalk ministry was held the weekend of April 27, 1996.

Continue to pray for Pastor Dan Eschelmann. He had surgery for a cancerous tumor from the lower left lobe of his left lung in March.

Many of you are enjoying the **Leader's Edge** published by BMH. If you can, we could use help with the publication costs. We are providing it free to over 1,700 people. Whatever you can do, we would appreciate it. If you have news, please share it with us at 1-800-348-2756.

A Seniors Cabinet is being formed by CE National to encourage effective ministry for seniors and to seniors in our local churches. A

group met this past month in Lancaster, PA and are planning a June 7 meeting to be held at Willow Valley GBC, Lancaster, PA.

Pastor Bob Nicholson has taken a leave of absence from the Grace Community Church In Mt. Vernon, Ohio. The congregation is a daughter church of the Lexington GBC (Pastor Dave Atkins). Pray for the pastor, his family, and for the congregation at Mt. Vernon.

Yukimasa Kinjo is the new pastor-in training of the Hoya City GBC in Tokyo, Japan. According to missionary, Debbie O'Dell, "He is gifted in evangelism and is a very godly young man."

Pray for the transition this year as the O'Dells turn over more responsibility to Yukimasa as they plan to return to the USA for home ministry this June.

Grace College & Seminary News

Grace College has released **figures for tuition, room and board for the next 1996-97 academic year.** Grace is pleased to announce for the second year in a row that tuition will only increase with the rate of inflation. The increase in tuition will stand at a mere 3% with an overall 2.5% increase. Tuition, room and board for next year will be raised from \$13,300 to \$13,652 which includes a 3% increase for tuition, a 4% increase for room and a 0% increase for board. Grace has made an effort to keep its tuition in a moderate range so that a degree from Grace will not be out of reach for its



constituents. Grace College offers its students over \$1.5 million in financial aid to help fund their higher education.

The Teacher Education Committee of Grace College voted to extend the following honors to some of the students who completed their student teaching during the Fall of 1995 in the local Warsaw area elementary and high schools. The Grace College Outstanding Prospective Teacher Awards goes to the following students: Heather Bartlett, a senior from Rib Lake, Wisconsin; Rebecca Hulthen, a senior from Shabbonah, Illinois; and Kim Gage, a senior from Lettz, Iowa. The Grace College Outstanding Prospective Teacher Award Honorable Mention goes to the following students: Amy Mathewson, a senior from Reynoldsburg, Ohio; Audrey Henderson, a senior from Dryden, Ontario, Canada; Ann Hinz, a senior from Warsaw, Indiana; Rebecca Matheny, a senior from Doylestown, Ohio; and Bryan Nelson, a senior from Waukesha, Wisconsin. Congratulations are extended to these students and best wishes for their futures in education.

Grace College and Seminary has employed Mark Messenger as Network Administrator. Messenger received a Bachelor of Science in Computer Science and Mathematics from Grace College in 1990. He came back to Grace after working for Boston Whaler, a boat manufacturer, because he said wanted to take the opportunity to use his business skills in a ministry position."

On March 19 and 20, Dr. Charles E. Hummel, speaker for the 1996 Staley Lecture Series, was at Grace College and spoke in chapel and selected classes. Hummel graduated from Yale University and earned an M.S. in chemical engineering from M.I.T. He has worked with Intervarsity Christian Fellowship in

various positions since 1951, as well as being President of a college in Rhode Island for ten years. He has written several books including, *The Galileo Connection: Resolving Conflicts between Science and Christianity* which is used as a text at Grace College. Hummel spoke about the harmony between Christianity and science. The Thomas Staley Foundations is a private, nonprofit organization that strives to further the gospel among college students nationwide.

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The First International Conference of GBC's

The First International Conference of Grace Brethren Churches will occur in Toronto, Canada, July 27—August 1, 1996. Put those dates on your calendar. Home Missions is making plans to commission the launch of our first Canadian church at that conference. Call 1-800-268-4838 for hotel reservations in Toronto.



Dave and Jean Vittum have been accepted as Rapid Deployment missionaries to the Philippines. Dave is finishing a career with the U. S. Navy, having specialized in service of nuclear submarines. They are members of the Waldorf GBC, and will leave for the Philippines in October if God provides a support team for them at that time. Pray that the Vittums will be able to raise all their support by October.

Pastor Dave Marksby has moved to the Seattle, WA area where he has assumed the pastorate of the Grace Bible Fellowship GBC in Maple Valley. This former Home

Missions church has been without a regular pastor for nearly two years, but has held together well. The church Dave formerly pastored in Garden Grove, CA (New Life GBC) has closed. Dave continues to serve, part time, as Western Director of Church Planting and Development for Home Missions.

After much prayer and searching, the Ron Schemmer family located a rental home in the Otay section of Tijuana. This means fewer long waits at the border. Teaming up with two boys interested in reaching their friends, Ron Schemmer began meeting boys in the local park to play soccer. Within a month, 15 to 20 boys ranging from six-year olds to 20-year olds were playing. Ten of these boys professed faith in Christ at a birthday party at the Schemmer home. Pray for effective follow-up for these children.

CE National's Time Program: Time (Training in Ministry Experiences) will be sending teams this summer to inner-city Chicago and Northern Brazil. The Chicago Time Team will be led by Bill & Patty Willhite and will minister in cooperation with the nationally recognized Circle Urban Ministries. Ivanildo Trindade will lead the Brazil Time Team ministering in beach evangelism, campus outreach, street evangelism, and to the churches in Macapa and Belem.

Paul Mutchler will be leaving Littitz, PA, and will be joining the staff at the GBC of Columbus in Worthington, OH. He will begin his new ministry as Pastor of Adult Ministries, CE, Programs & Services. He'll be starting May 1, 1996.

Address Correction:

Grace Brethren Church, 6259 Faber Dr., Brooksville, FL 34602
Pastor Bill Stevens

If you were arrested for being a Christian,
would there be enough evidence to convict you?

TRIED CONVICTED



BNYC '96 programs include:

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Rebecca St. James
Sound Investment
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"Lord, Use Me . . ."

by Judy Daniels

But Not Too
Close To HOME"

The summer before I started college, I took a job as a waitress at one of Winona Lake's old hotels. Restaurant work was not my first choice, but the job I wanted fell through at the last minute. With college looming ahead, I was in a near-panic mode.

The work was exhausting and we were always shorthanded. Our boss was a temperamental old Navy cook who looked as though he hadn't shaved since the Korean War. A highlight of my summer was watching him throw a plate of eggs on the floor after a customer sent them back because they weren't cooked right.

But the job was OK. Almost everyone who worked at the hotel was my age, so one of the benefits was a little social life at work. And, because this was 1968, there were still conferences in Winona Lake—which meant people coming and going constantly.

We met people who were well-known in Christian circles—almost celebrities. Most of them were as nice as pie (even to teenagers) and we enjoyed being around them.

One woman, however, was the exception. I was warned about her early on. When our paths finally crossed, I realized no one had been exaggerating. She was rude and demanding, and liked to look at us as if we had just come from a slave auction. We all avoided waiting on her. When we saw her heading for the dining room, we would rush to the kitchen to decide who the unlucky server would be for that meal.

One day, I was the unlucky server. Our lady was sitting at her table with some friends, entertaining them with a monologue about an upcoming Christian film she was working on. I was distributing the food, when I heard her say the oddest thing: "Yes, we're hoping to reach the young people in America with this film."

I couldn't believe it! I wanted to scream. I wanted to jerk her to her feet, and shout, "Lady, if you want to reach

young people, why don't you start here? There are a dozen of us that you see every day, and not everybody is a Christian. Don't you care about us?"

For some reason, I said nothing. Although I didn't react outwardly, I've never forgotten how bizarre her statement was.

She wanted to reach young people, but not the ones close to her. She wanted to influence teenagers she didn't know, but she couldn't even be friendly to the ones she saw every day. Who knows what might have happened if she had?

I've thought about her comment in the years since that summer. Along the way, I've met other people who have operated the same way. Maybe they weren't rude and demanding to the people around them—just oblivious or uncaring.

It's easy to think of examples. The Old Testament priest, Eli, somehow managed to minister to the children of Israel, but lost his own sons in the process. King David was a hero in the entire country, but not with his family. I've known people who could list missionaries all over the world, but had a tough time remembering who lived two doors down the street.

But I guess I'm the same way. Why is it easier for me to go across town where I don't know anyone, and pass out invitations to church, than it is to go next door and give one to my neighbor? Two reasons come to mind. First, my neighbor knows me. Somehow I have it in my mind that she's going to say, "Oh you want me to come to church with you? And didn't I hear you yelling at your kids in the yard last night?"

My neighbors are nice people, and not one of them has ever said something like that to me. But the thought of hearing them say it is still there. I

should somehow be perfect before I invite them to church, or they won't want to come. What I'm forgetting is that my neighbors wouldn't be coming to church because of me, but because God is working in their hearts.

The second reason close-up evangelism is hard, is that it's riskier if someone asks a question and I don't know the answer. Or what if I'm asked to do something that throws my schedule out of whack? What then?

Both of these reasons involve "me" a lot. I suppose that's why long-distance ministry is so popular with us. We can feel good about our involvement when we drop a ten dollar bill in the offering, knowing that our pastor or some missionary will use it to tell someone we don't know about the Lord. And it doesn't cramp our schedule or give us an identity crisis.

Somewhere there's a balance in all this, and I admire people who have it. These are people who have a genuine concern for folks in Africa they've never met, and they have the same concern for their co-worker in the next office. They write to missionaries overseas, but they also volunteer at their child's school. They don't miss opportunities—whether close by or miles away.

Our lady in the dining room probably thought she had quite a ministry. But her balancing act with close-up and long-distance evangelism needed a lot more practice. She never knew what opportunities she missed by ignoring the people around her. I probably don't know what I've missed along the way, either. •

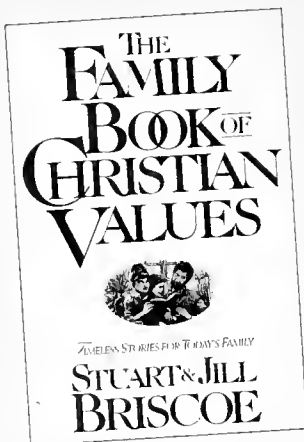


LAMP LIGHT CHRONICLES

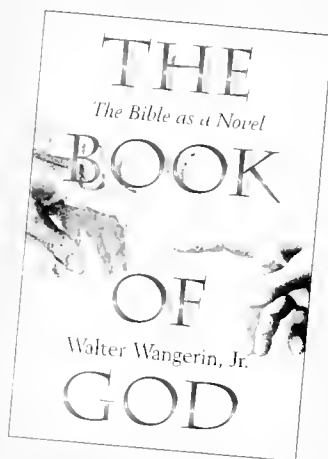
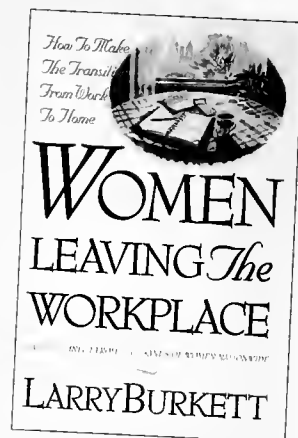
"You, O Lord, keep my lamp burning"

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Women Leaving the Workplace by Larry Burkett. Mothers who want to spend more time at home with their children, find it difficult with the outside influences of today. Pressure comes from the high cost of living, food taxes, and debt. In this book, Larry Burkett gives insight to women who desire to stay at home. He discusses areas such as: preparing to live on one income, developing and living on a budget, coping with an unsupportive spouse, creating income while staying at home, homeschooling the children, reentering the workforce, and other important issues. **Only \$16.99.**



The Book of God: The Bible as a Novel. Walter Wangerin, Jr. The entire Bible is narrated by master storyteller Walter Wangerin, Jr. It reads like a great historical novel, dramatizes biblical events, and makes the men and women of this ancient book come alive in vivid detail and dialogue. *The Book of God* follows the biblical story in chrono-

logical order. **Only \$22.97.**

A Gown of Spanish Lace by Janette Oke. Ariana has been abducted by two men from everything she loves. She is held hostage in a camp of bandits for weeks. Will she ever see her adopted parents or wear the wedding dress saved for her—the one link with her birth parents, now long dead? **Just \$8.99.**



Rebel with a Cause by Franklin Graham. This book gives an account of Franklin Graham's life as the son of Billy Graham. He recalls his good and tainted childhood memories with his father. He tells of his rebellious years with smoking, drinking, fighting, police confrontations and expulsion from college. Finally, he will speak of his spiritual transformation to God and ministry. **Just \$22.99.**

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